

# *Kisses, Sighs, and Cherry Blossom Pink*

## 1



*Story & Art by yuri icon* **MILK MORINAGA**



*Kisses, Sighs, and  
Cherry Blossom Pink.*



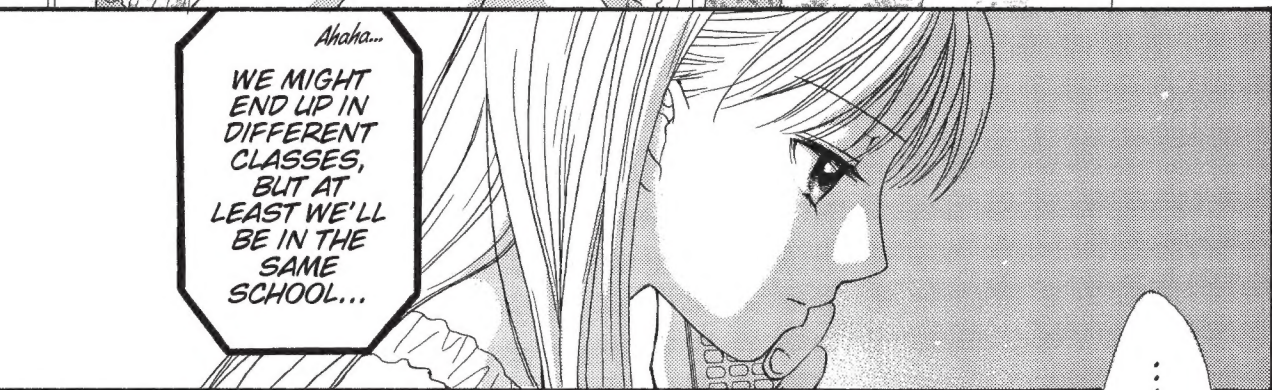


Haha!

I HOPE  
WE BOTH  
MAKE IT!  
WHAT TIME  
SHOULD  
WE GO  
CHECK?

HELLO,  
HITOMI?  
HEY, IT'S  
NANA!

THEY'RE  
POSTING THE  
ENTRANCE EXAM  
RESULTS FOR  
SAKURAKAI GIRLS'  
HIGH SCHOOL  
TOMORROW!  
I'M NERVOUS  
ALREADY...



Ahaha...

WE MIGHT  
END UP IN  
DIFFERENT  
CLASSES,  
BUT AT  
LEAST WE'LL  
BE IN THE  
SAME  
SCHOOL...



WHAT?

I FOUND  
OUT TODAY  
THAT I  
GOT INTO  
TOUHO  
HIGH. IT'S  
A REALLY  
GOOD  
SCHOOL,  
SO...



I'M NOT  
GOING TO  
SAKURAKAI,  
WHETHER  
I GET IN  
OR NOT.

I'M  
SORRY,  
NANA.





WE  
WON'T BE  
SPENDING  
HIGH  
SCHOOL  
TOGETHER,  
NANA.

EVEN  
WHEN  
I'M  
ASLEEP,  
I KEEP  
THINKING  
ABOUT  
IT...

THE  
MOMENT I  
REALIZED  
I WAS  
LOSING  
HITOMI.

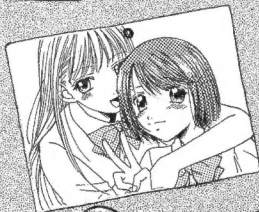
I DON'T  
KNOW  
WHAT  
TO DO...

CHAPTER 1  
NOT FRIENDS ANYMORE



IT'S  
BEEN TWO  
MONTHS  
SINCE WE  
STARTED  
HIGH  
SCHOOL...

BUT I  
HAVEN'T  
CALLED OR  
TEXTED  
HER OR  
ANY-  
THING.



NANA,  
HURRY UP!  
YOU'LL BE  
LATE FOR  
SCHOOL!

I'M  
ALMOST  
READY!

CLUNK

HITOMI  
AND I  
WENT TO  
THE SAME  
ELEMEN-  
TARY AND  
JUNIOR HIGH  
SCHOOLS.

WE  
WERE  
BEST  
FRIENDS.

“HUH?!”

"YOUR  
POPUL-  
LARITY IS  
ON THE  
RISE..."

BE  
READY  
FOR EXTRA  
ATTENTION  
FROM  
THE BOYS  
IN YOUR  
CLASS!"

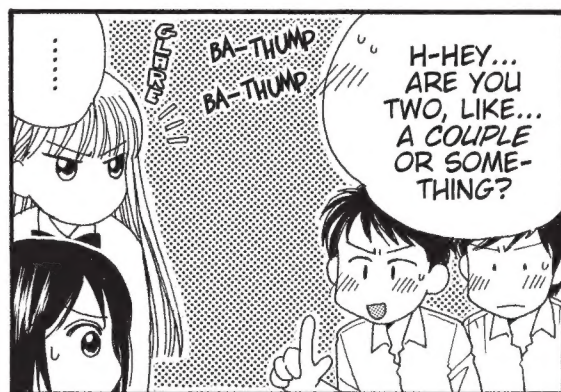
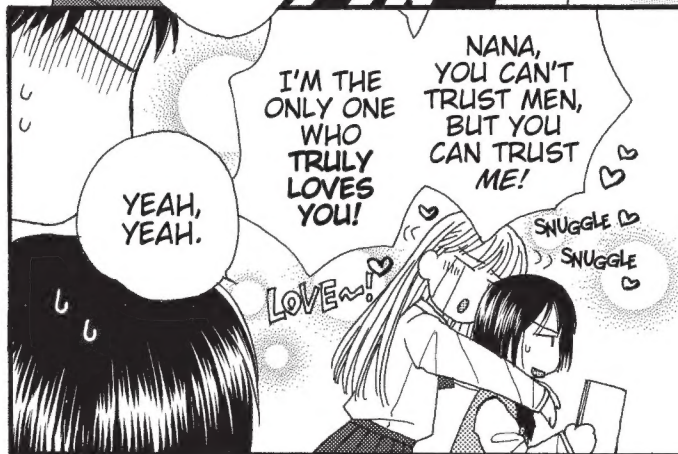
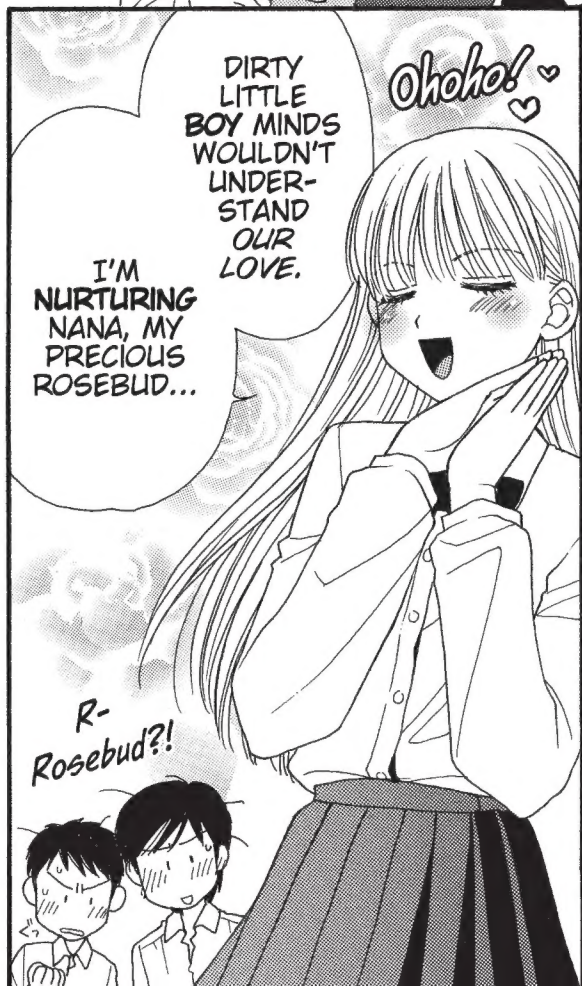
"DON'T BE  
SURPRISED  
IF ONE  
OF THEM  
ASKS ABOUT  
YOUR PLANS  
FOR HIGH  
SCHOOL..."

SHAKE  
SHAKE  
SHAKE

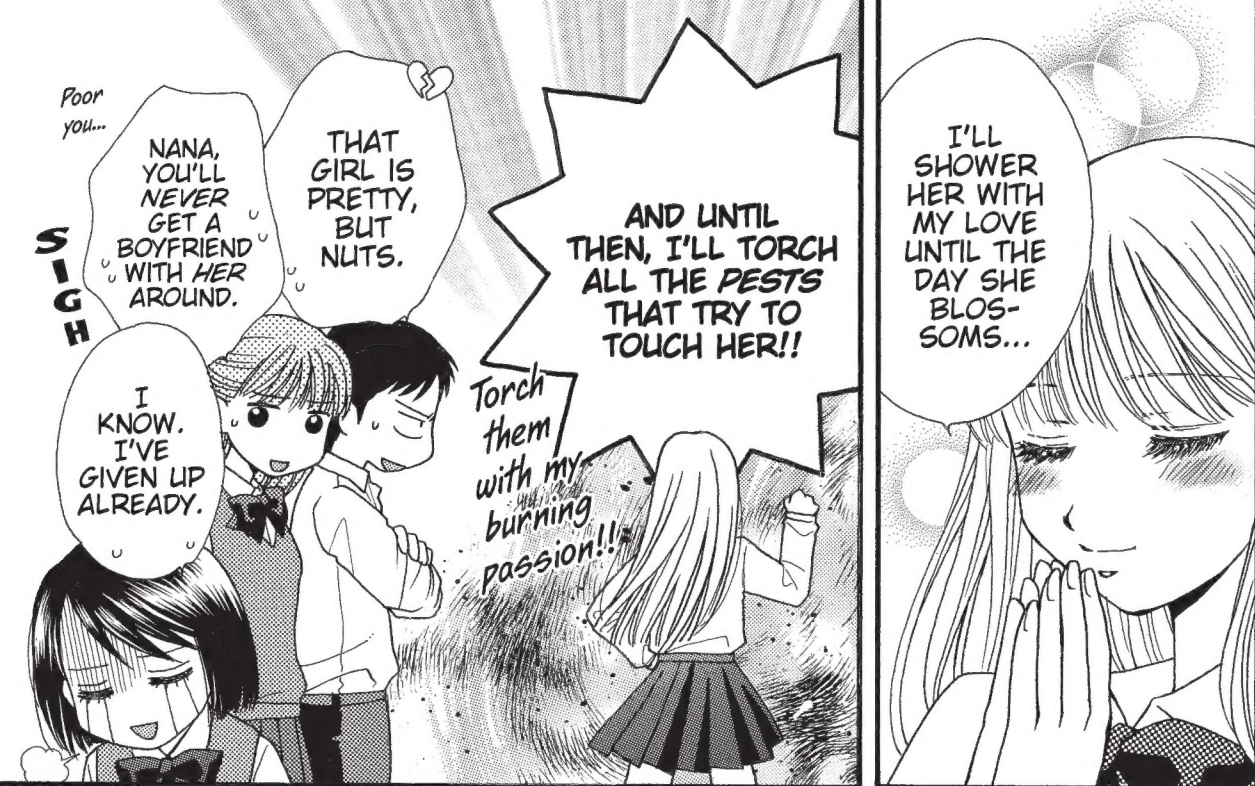
LET'S  
SEE...  
WHAT'S IN  
STORE FOR  
PISCES THIS  
MONTH?















AND I...  
I TOOK  
HER FOR  
GRANTED.

I JUST  
ASSUMED  
WE'D  
ALWAYS BE  
TOGETHER.



KO-  
BAYASHI-  
CHAN...?

BUT I WAS  
WRONG...

KO-  
BAYASHI-  
CHAN!



IT'S NOT  
THAT BIG  
A DEAL! HE  
JUST ASKED  
FOR MY NAME  
AND EMAIL  
ADDRESS...

Hee  
hee!

A BOY  
FROM ANOTHER  
SCHOOL ASKED  
CHIHO OUT THIS  
MORNING!!



WEREN'T  
YOU  
LISTENING,  
KOBAYASHI-  
CHAN?

UM, NOT  
REALLY...

Oh!

AH,  
SORRY!  
WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?



EVERY-  
ONE'S  
NICE, BUT  
I STILL  
FEEL LIKE  
AN OUT-  
SIDER.

ALMOST  
EVERYONE  
HERE ALSO  
WENT TO  
SAKURAKAI'S  
JUNIOR  
HIGH  
SCHOOL,  
SO...

A LOT  
OF THEM  
HAVE  
BEEN  
FRIENDS  
FOR  
YEARS.



IT WAS  
HITOMI'S  
IDEA TO  
COME HERE  
IN THE  
FIRST  
PLACE!

YOU'D  
LOOK GREAT  
IN IT! COME  
ON! I'LL TAKE  
THE ENTRANCE  
EXAM TOO!

THAT  
SCHOOL  
UNIFORM IS  
SOOOO CUTE!  
NANA, YOU  
SHOULD GO  
THERE!

Squeal!

Sailor  
style!!

Um, I'll  
ask my  
parents...



COME TO  
THINK  
OF IT...

I  
REALLY  
WISH  
HITOMI  
WAS  
HERE  
WITH  
ME.

Hey!



WELL, JUST  
DO "THE TEST"  
TO SEE HOW  
YOU REALLY  
FEEL ABOUT  
HIM.

HUH?  
"THE  
TEST?"

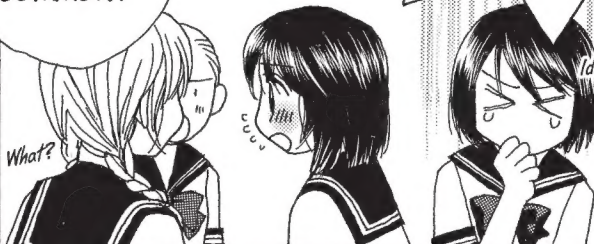
WE  
JUST MET!  
WHAT IF  
WE HAVE  
NOTHING IN  
COMMON?

BUT  
I DON'T  
KNOW IF I  
WANT TO  
GO OUT  
WITH HIM  
OR NOT...

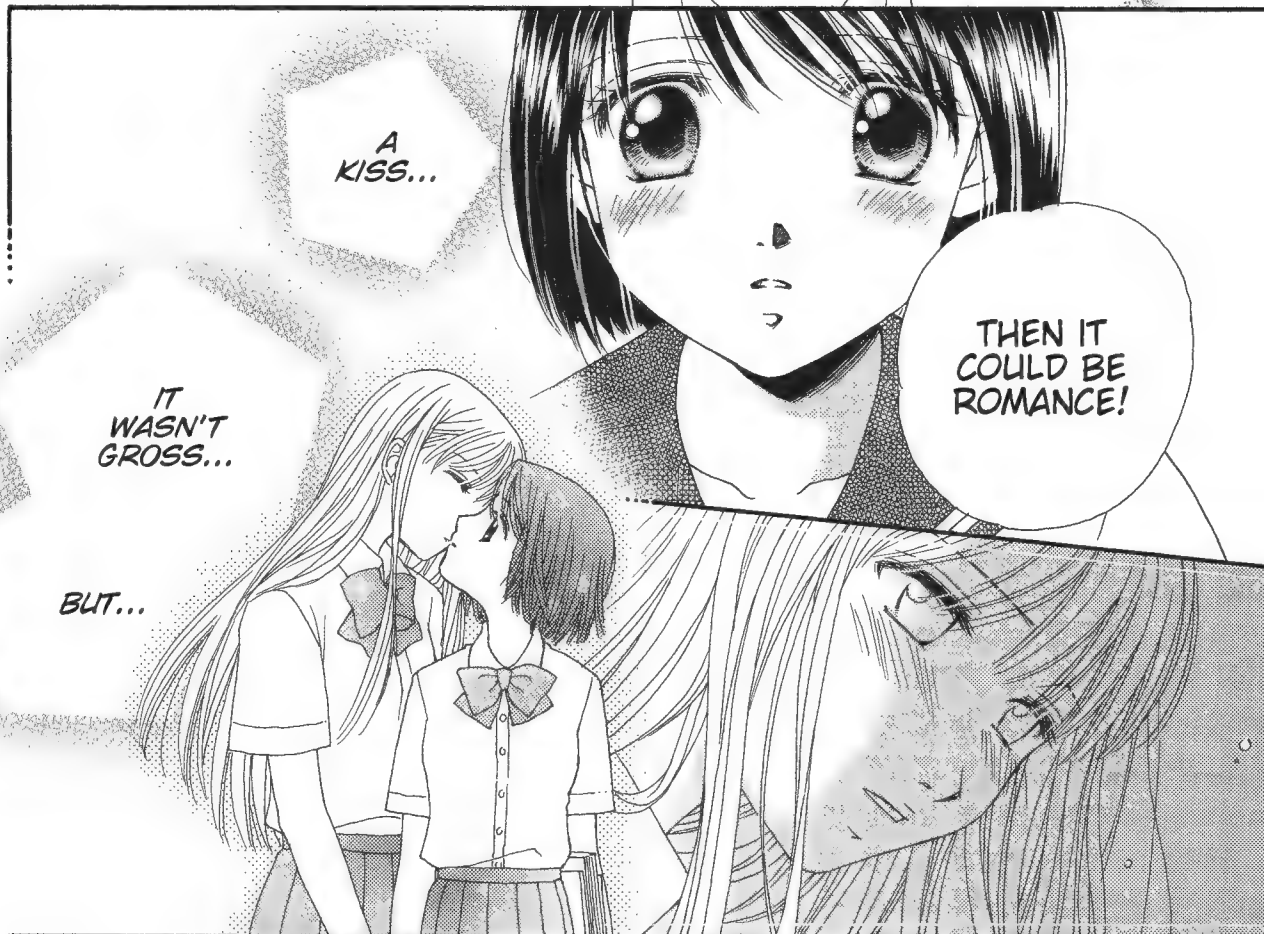
SHE  
PASSED THE  
EXAM, BUT  
THEN DIDN'T  
ENROLL! SHE  
TOTALLY  
TRICKED  
ME!

Idiot!!

What?

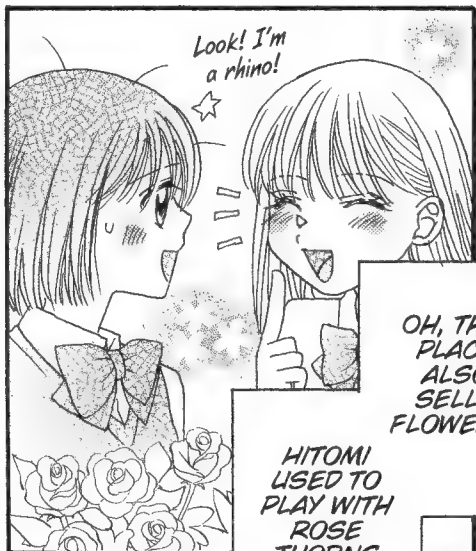








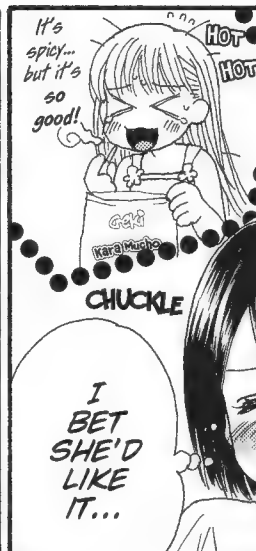




Look! I'm  
a rhino!

OH, THIS  
PLACE  
ALSO  
SELLS  
FLOWERS.

HITOMI  
USED TO  
PLAY WITH  
ROSE  
THORNS  
IN THE  
SCHOOL-  
YARD.



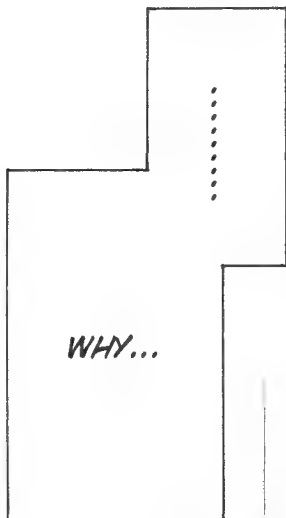
It's  
spicy...  
but it's  
so  
good!

Hot  
Hot

THEY'RE  
HITOMI'S  
FAVORITE!  
I WONDER  
IF SHE'S  
TRIED THIS  
FLAVOR...

CHUCKLE

I  
BET  
SHE'D  
LIKE  
IT...



WHY...





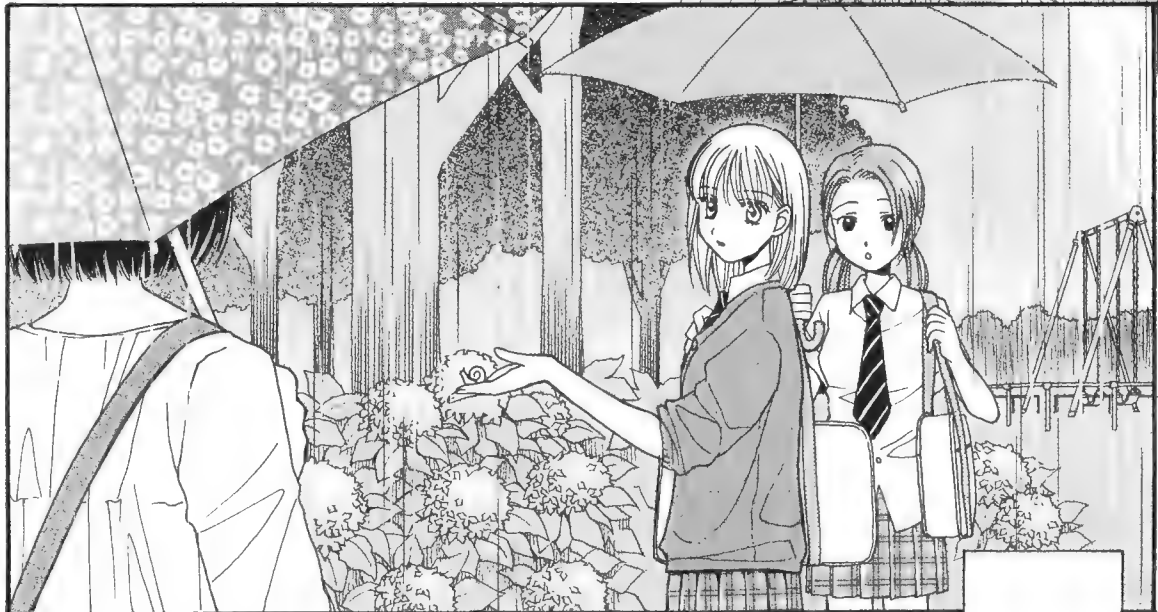
NANA?

WHY  
THINK  
ABOUT  
HER AT  
ALL?

WE  
MIGHT  
NEVER  
SEE  
EACH  
OTHER  
AGAIN...

SHAAA

WHY  
DOES  
EVERY-  
THING  
REMINDE  
ME OF  
HER?



HEY!  
IT'S BEEN  
AWHILE.

NO.

WAY.





THAT'S  
RIGHT!



THEY'RE  
ON A  
FIRST-  
NAME  
BASIS...

MINAMI  
JUNIOR  
HIGH,  
RIGHT?

YEAH,  
FROM  
JUNIOR  
HIGH...

HITO---

IS SHE  
A FRIEND  
OF YOURS,  
HITOMI?



HER  
HAIR...



OH. I  
SEE YOU  
CUT YOUR  
HAIR.

YUP!  
I'M ON  
THE BASKET-  
BALL  
TEAM.

PRAC-  
TICE...?

WE  
GOT OUT  
EARLY  
BECAUSE  
OF THE  
RAIN.

YEAH,  
FOR  
PRAC-  
TICE.

SO,  
NANA...  
WERE YOU  
SHOP-  
PING?

YES.  
HOW  
ABOUT  
YOU? WERE  
YOU AT  
SCHOOL?

YEAH, I  
DECIDED  
TO TRY A  
SHORTER  
STYLE.



SHE...

SHE  
DOESN'T  
NEED ME  
AT ALL.

THE  
TOUHOU  
UNIFORM...

LOOKS  
GOOD ON  
YOU.

I GUESS  
IT'S BEEN  
EASY FOR  
HITOMI.

SHE'S  
ALREADY  
MADE NEW  
FRIENDS.





OH NO!

I TOTALLY FORGOT THAT WE WERE GOING TO HANG OUT TODAY, NANA! CAN I STILL COME OVER?

HUH?

ZOOM

EH?!

THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR UMBRELLA!

I'M GOING TO NANA'S PLACE!

ALL RIGHT! SEE YOU TOMORROW, HITOMI!

Bye bye!

EH?



I'M GONNA CRY RIGHT HERE.



IT SEEMS LIKE YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE GOING TO TOUHOU INSTEAD OF SAKURAKAI.

OH GOD...

I'M ABOUT TO...

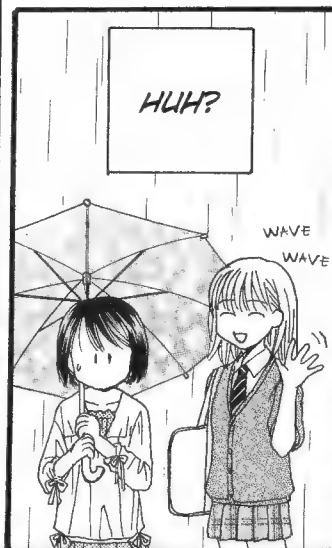




O-  
OKAY...



NANA,  
CAN WE  
SHARE  
YOUR UM-  
BRELLA?



HUH?

WAVE  
WAVE



THAT'S  
STILL HIGH  
ENOUGH  
TO BE  
PREPARED...

BESIDES, THE  
WEATHERMAN  
SAID THERE  
WAS ONLY A  
30% CHANCE  
OF RAIN  
TODAY!

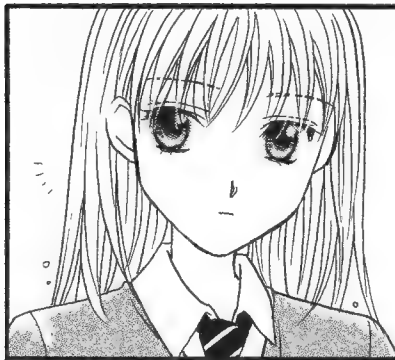


DID YOU  
FORGET  
YOUR  
UMBRELLA  
TODAY?

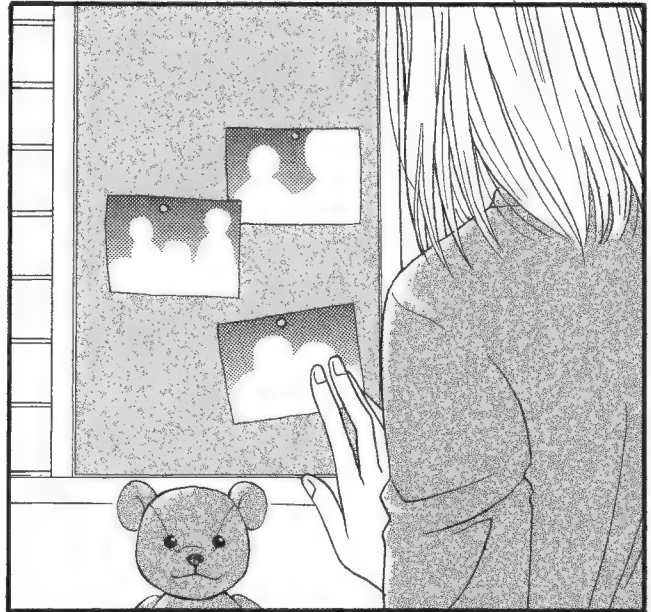
I  
USUALLY  
HAVE A  
FOLDING  
ONE IN MY  
BAG...

BUT I  
LEFT IT  
OUT TO DRY  
YESTERDAY  
AND I  
FORGOT  
TO PUT IT  
BACK IN.





IT FEELS  
JUST  
LIKE  
BEFORE...  
  
EVEN  
THOUGH  
WE  
HAVEN'T  
SEEN EACH  
OTHER IN  
AGES.



**YOUR  
UNIFORM!!**

HUH?



What  
promise?

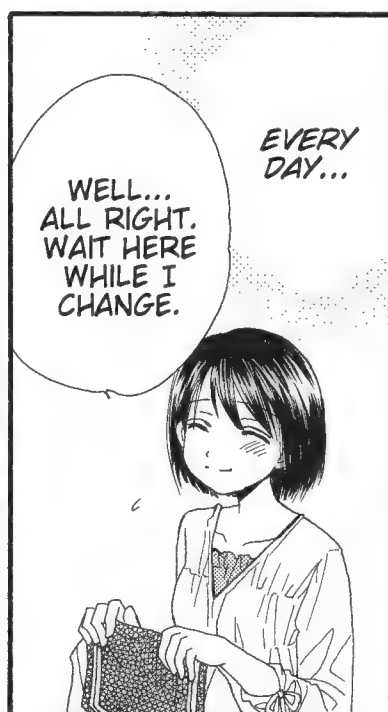
UM...  
OUR  
PROMISE?



NANA...

DO YOU  
REMEMBER  
OUR  
PROMISE?







OKAY.

O...

GO  
ON.

THERE!

CREAK

IT  
SHOULDN'T  
BOTHER  
ME.

I MEAN,  
WHEN  
WE WERE  
YOUNGER,  
HITOMI AND I  
WOULD EVEN  
TAKE BATHS  
TOGETHER.

SO  
THIS  
ISN'T  
A BIG  
DEAL.



AT  
LEAST,  
THAT'S  
WHAT I  
TOLD  
MYSELF...

BUT I  
KNEW  
BET-  
TER...

THIS IS  
NOTHING.  
IT MEANS  
NOTHING.





I'M  
GLAD I  
GOT TO  
SEE IT.

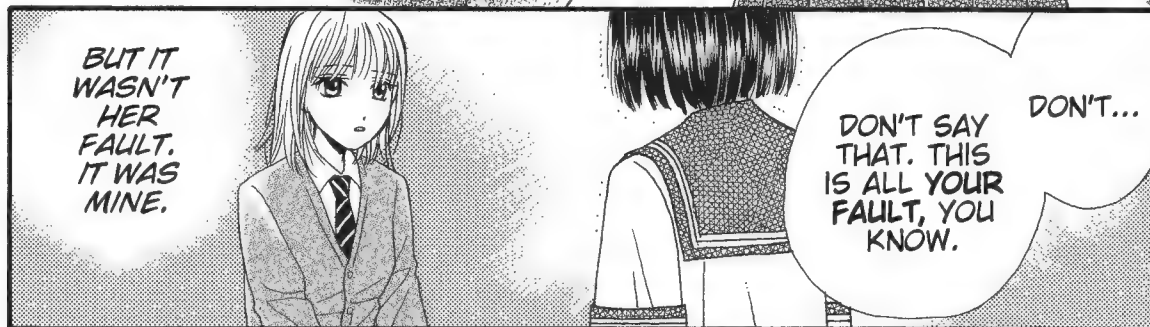
IT  
LOOKS  
SO CUTE  
ON YOU.

TUG

I JUST  
ACTED  
LIKE I  
DIDN'T  
NOTICE.

BUT BY  
IGNOR-  
ING THE  
SIGNS...

I  
HURT  
HITOMI'S  
FEEL-  
INGS...



BUT IT  
WASN'T  
HER  
FAULT.  
IT WAS  
MINE.

DON'T SAY  
THAT. THIS  
IS ALL YOUR  
FAULT, YOU  
KNOW.

DON'T...



I KNOW  
YOU HAVE  
TONS OF NEW  
FRIENDS AND  
YOUR NEW  
SCHOOL  
IS SOOOO  
GREAT AND...  
AND...

NO,  
I'M  
THE  
BAD  
FRIEND,  
NOT  
HER...

BUT  
YOU CHOSE  
ANOTHER  
SCHOOL WITH-  
OUT EVEN  
SAYING ANY-  
THING...

YOU  
SHOULD'VE  
GONE TO  
SAKURAKAI  
WITH ME!



I'M  
SORRY,  
NANA.



I  
WANTED  
TO GO TO  
THE SAME  
SCHOOL  
AS YOU,  
TOO...

AND  
WANTED  
TO STAY  
FRIENDS...  
BUT...



NANA,  
YOU  
KNOW  
HOW I  
FEEL  
ABOUT  
YOU...

I  
KNEW  
...

THE  
MOMENT  
IT HAD-  
PENED,  
I KNEW.

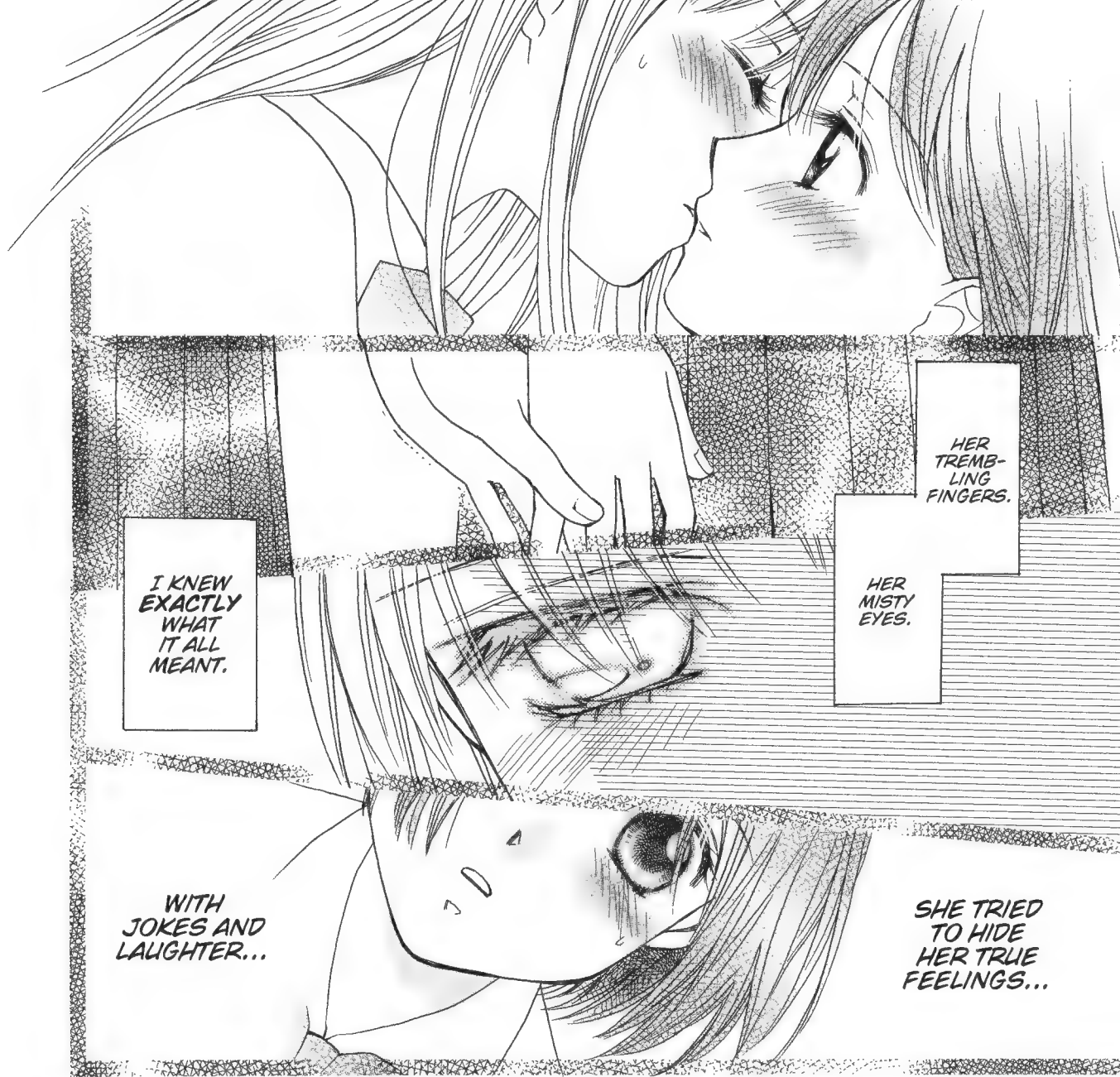


DON'T  
MAKE  
ME SAY  
THIS...



AND  
I KNOW  
YOU'RE FINE  
WITHOUT  
ME...!





I KNEW  
EXACTLY  
WHAT  
IT ALL  
MEANT.

HER  
TREMB-  
LING  
FINGERS.

HER  
MISTY  
EYES.

WITH  
JOKES AND  
LAUGHTER...

SHE TRIED  
TO HIDE  
HER TRUE  
FEELINGS...



AH...

GOSH,  
HITOMI!!  
YOU'RE SO  
TOUCHY-  
FEELY...

I KNEW THE  
TRUTH, AND IT  
SCARED ME.

BUT...





I'M SO SORRY!

WE SHOULD HURRY! EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR US.

DASH

EVEN THOUGH I HURT HER...

HITOMI KEPT BEING MY FRIEND.

IS IT TOO LATE?

I KNOW WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF.

I...

NANA...?

I KNOW NOW.

DO YOU... DO YOU STILL LIKE ME?





BUT I  
STILL THINK  
ABOUT YOU  
EVERY DAY!

WITH  
NEW  
FRIENDS,  
A NEW  
SCHOOL,  
A NEW  
HAIR-  
CUT...

HITOMI,  
I KNOW  
YOU HAVE  
A WHOLE  
NEW  
LIFE...

I WAS  
SCARED  
THAT IF  
THINGS  
CHANGED  
BETWEEN  
US...

THAT  
I WOULD  
END UP  
LOSING  
HER.

I HATE  
IT! I  
HATE  
THAT I  
HARDLY  
EVER SEE  
YOU!

AND--



I  
WANT  
TO DO  
EVEN  
MORE  
THAN  
THAT.

I WANT  
TO KISS  
YOU...  
AND...

I  
WANT  
IT SO  
BAD,  
NANA

EVEN  
IF I DO  
THAT?  
  
DO YOU  
STILL  
HATE  
IT?





I  
NEVER  
REAL-  
IZED...

HITOMI'S  
JUST AS  
SCARED  
AS I AM.

A FRIEND  
SHOULDN'T  
FEEL THIS  
WAY...



WE  
DON'T...

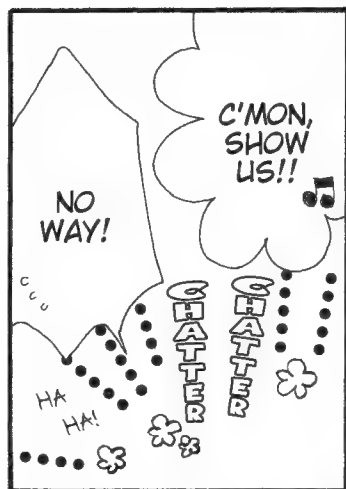
HAVE TO  
BE JUST  
"FRIENDS"  
ANYMORE.



IT'S  
MINE!

OH! SOME-  
ONE'S CELL  
PHONE IS  
RINGING.





BY THE TIME MY CELL PHONE FILLS UP WITH YOUR TEXTS AND PHOTOS...

IT WILL BE SUMMER VACATION AND WE'LL SPEND EVERY DAY OF IT TOGETHER.



CHAPTER 1 END



EVERY  
SUMMER  
IS  
EXACTLY  
THE  
SAME.

EVEN I  
STAY THE  
SAME,  
YEAR  
AFTER  
YEAR.

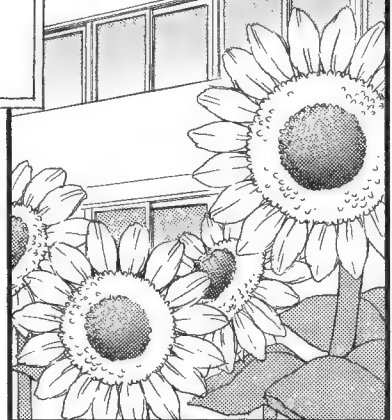


ONLY  
A FEW  
STUDENTS  
AROUND...

JUST  
ANOTHER  
TYPICAL  
SUMMER  
VACATION.

SUN-  
FLOWERS  
BLOOM  
IN THE  
SCHOOL-  
YARD...

CICADAS  
SING...



WHY  
HAVEN'T I  
CHANGED?

I GUESS  
I'M JUST  
ANOTHER  
CONSTANT  
FIXTURE AT  
SAKURA-  
KAI...



IT'S SO  
QUIET  
INSIDE  
THE  
SCHOOL  
...

BUT  
I'M NOT  
LONELY  
AT ALL!

BECAUSE  
YOU'RE  
ALWAYS  
THERE.

NURSE

YAWN!

MY  
NAME'S  
KATO.  
I'M A  
GHOST.

CHAPTER 2  
THE SUMMER CLOSEST TO HEAVEN



MOST OF  
THE TIME  
IT'S JUST  
THE TWO  
OF US.

STUDENTS  
RARELY  
COME HERE  
DURING  
SUMMER  
VACATION.



BUT I  
HAVE A  
FEELING  
SOMEONE  
WILL COME  
TODAY.  
  
THERE'S  
A LOT  
GOING  
ON...



WE'LL  
WIN! WE  
JUST  
NEED  
TO--

AHH!

TOUHO'S  
BETTER  
THAN WE  
THOUGHT!

WE'RE THE  
ONES WHO  
CHALLENGED  
THEM TO A  
GAME, SO  
IT'D SUCK  
IF WE  
LOST.

DAMN!  
THEY'RE  
AHEAD  
BY FOUR  
POINTS...

BE-BEEP

FLUTCH  
不々!!



UNNH...!

NATSIKA?  
ARE YOU  
ALL  
RIGHT?

OH NO, A  
SPORTS  
INJURY?  
  
IS IT  
YOUR  
ANKLE?

I DIDN'T  
KNOW THE  
SCHOOL  
NURSE...  
  
STUCK  
AROUND  
FOR  
SUMMER  
VACATION.

STAND

SLIDE

JEEZ...

THIS  
SUCKS!

God!

OKAY.  
I'LL GET  
IT FOR  
YOU...

Jeez!

I'M  
FINE!  
I JUST  
NEED  
SOME  
RELIEF  
PATCHES.

Oh.  
I KINDA  
HAVE TO,  
SINCE THE  
SPORTS  
TEAMS ARE  
STILL ACTIVE.  
LET ME  
SEE YOUR  
ANKLE...

IT'S NOT  
THAT BAD!  
I PATCH UP  
STUFF LIKE  
THIS ALL  
THE TIME!

BUT IT  
LOOKS  
SWOLLEN  
...

HEY!



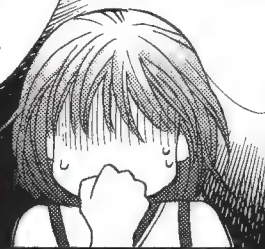




BUT  
THERE'S  
NO SHAME  
IN ADMITTING  
YOU'RE  
HURT.

I'VE  
NOTICED  
THAT A LOT  
OF ATHLETES  
WON'T COME  
HERE WHEN  
THEY'RE  
INJURED...

DID I TAKE  
OVER HER  
BODY?!



EH?

Ehelt!

IT'S...

IT'S  
A BIG  
OWIE!

トイロ  
トイロ



Did you  
hit your  
head?

HUH?

HAHA!  
IT'S BEEN A  
WHILE SINCE  
I WALKED  
ON THE  
GROUND...



I'M  
A-OKAY!

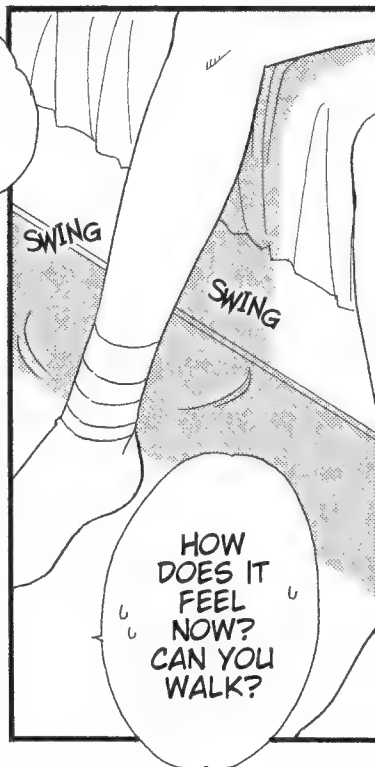
YUP!

まっす!



H-Head  
first?!

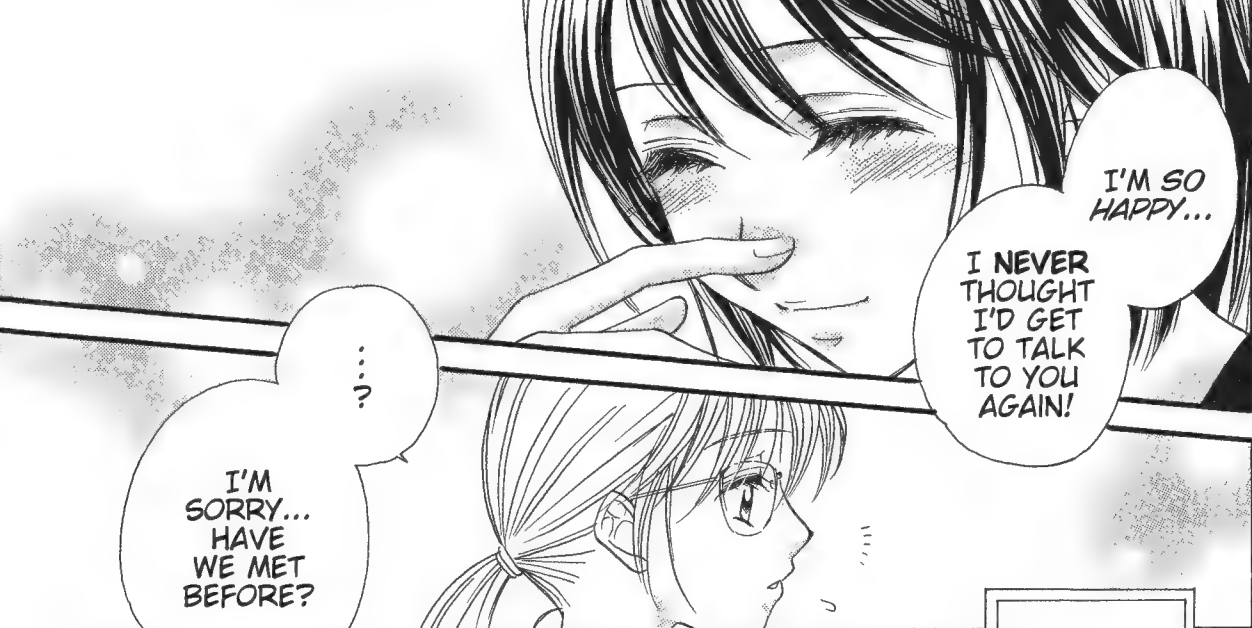
どっ!



SWING

SWING

HOW  
DOES IT  
FEEL  
NOW?  
CAN YOU  
WALK?

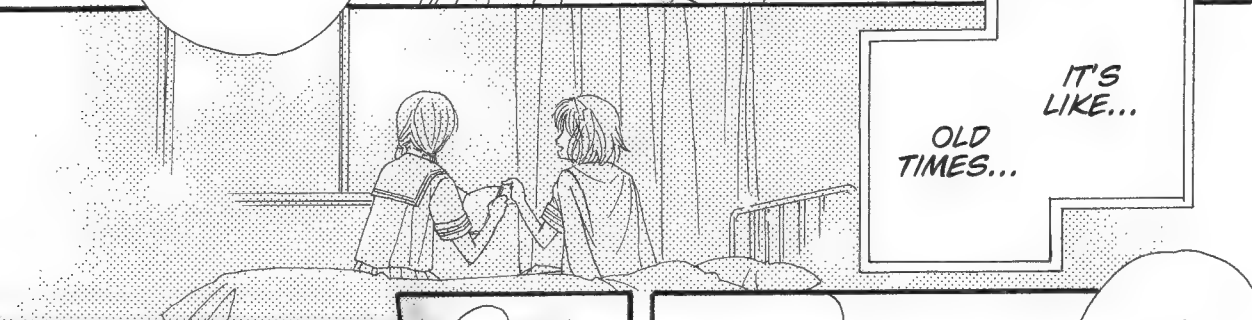


I'M SO  
HAPPY...

I NEVER  
THOUGHT  
I'D GET  
TO TALK  
TO YOU  
AGAIN!

...?

I'M  
SORRY...  
HAVE  
WE MET  
BEFORE?



IT'S  
LIKE...  
OLD  
TIMES...



WELL,  
OF  
COURSE,  
YOU  
ARE...

HAHA! I'M  
ACTUALLY  
SWEATING!

IT'S  
SO  
HOT  
OUT!

HUFF

HUFF

IT'S HOT  
OUT HERE.  
HOW'S  
YOUR  
ANKLE?



MY NAME  
AND CLASS  
NUMBER,  
RIGHT?  
SURE  
THING!!

UM,  
WOULD  
YOU MIND  
SIGNING  
IN?



OKAY,  
KOMATSU?  
ER, I  
MEAN...

SENSEI?

HEY,  
LET'S GO  
OUTSIDE!



HUH?

Outside?  
On that  
ankle?





WHAT?

HEHE...

HUFF



ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SENSEI?  
YOU SHOULDN'T STAY IN THAT CHILLY OFFICE ALL DAY!



PANT  
GASP



BUT THE TEMPERATURE DIFFERENCE MIGHT MAKE IT WORSE!

OH DEAR...

GASP

MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT, IT DOES GET COLD IN THERE.

I WAS KEEPING IT COOL IN CASE ANYONE GOT HEAT STROKE...



SO YOU BECAME A SCHOOL NURSE AFTER ALL!



OH, HELLO THERE, KOMATSU-SENSEI...  
COME ON, IDE! EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR YOU.

SHE HAS A SLIGHT SPRAIN, SO SHE SHOULD REST IT FOR A WHILE...

EHH?!



IDE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

YOU LEFT THE COURT AND NEVER CAME BACK! WE WERE WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

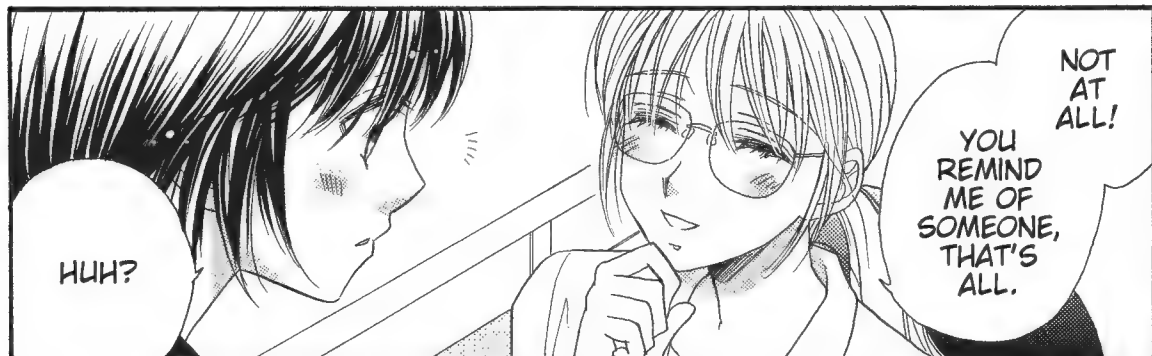
There you are!



.....?









BUT I NEVER  
EXPECTED  
TO END UP  
BACK AT MY  
OLD HIGH  
SCHOOL!

I WENT  
TO COLLEGE  
AND BECAME  
A SCHOOL  
NURSE...

I WAS  
ONLY  
AT THIS  
SCHOOL  
FOR A  
SHORT  
TIME...

BEFORE  
I TRANS-  
FERRED  
OUT...

WHEN  
YOU  
CAME  
BACK...

I  
WAS SO  
HAPPY  
TO SEE  
YOU!

WE COULD  
BE FRIENDS  
AGAIN...  
JUST LIKE  
BEFORE...

WE WERE  
TOGETHER  
AGAIN...

I  
KNOW.  
I'M  
WITH  
YOU  
EVERY  
DAY.

BUT  
SOME  
OTHER  
STUDENTS  
COME  
HERE A  
LOT!

ACTIVE  
AND  
HEALTHY  
STUDENTS  
LIKE YOU  
RARELY  
VISIT MY  
OFFICE...





YES...

A SAFE PLACE WHERE THEY'RE ALWAYS WELCOME.

SOME STUDENTS JUST NEED A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN REST AND RECOVER...

IT WAS AN IMPORTANT PLACE FOR ME BACK THEN.

I SPENT MOST OF MY BREAKS AND LUNCH HOURS HERE.

THE NURSE WAS REALLY NICE AND THE ROOM WAS COZY.

I EVEN MADE A LOT OF FRIENDS HERE.

LIKE THAT GIRL I MET IN MY FIRST YEAR...



I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO HER AFTER SHE TRANSFERRED...



I BROUGHT MINE TOO! LET'S EAT ON THE ROOF!



YOU BROUGHT A LUNCH TODAY, RIGHT?

BA-THUMP



EH?

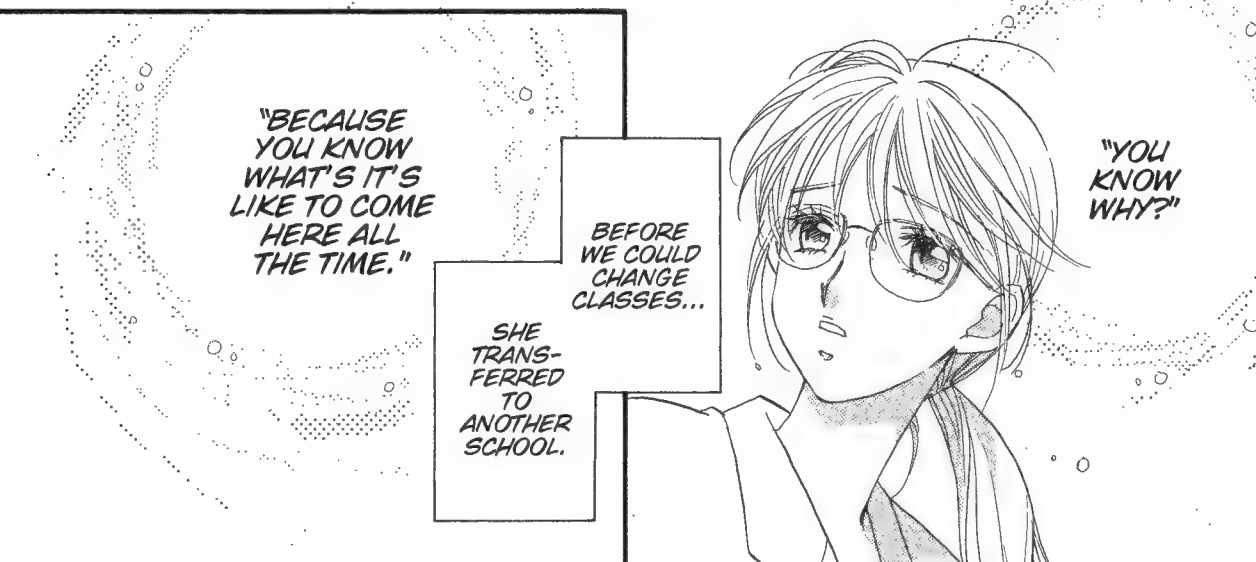
HEY, SENSEI!















SO  
MANY OF  
THEM COME  
TO ME WITH  
INJURIES,  
ILLNESSES...  
OR OTHER  
PROBLEMS...

I WISH  
FEWER  
STUDENTS  
NEEDED  
MY HELP,  
BUT...

I KNOW!  
YOU'RE  
THE ONLY  
TEACHER  
WHO COMES  
EVERY DAY  
DURING  
SUMMER  
BREAK.

I  
REALLY  
LOVE MY  
JOB.

I  
WANTED  
TO SEE  
HER  
OUTSIDE  
OF THE  
NURSE'S  
OFFICE.

I  
WANTED  
TO SPEND  
MORE TIME  
WITH HER.



THE  
LEAST I  
CAN DO  
IS LISTEN  
TO THEM.

I FIGURE  
THAT WHEN  
STUDENTS  
COME TO ME  
WITH THEIR  
TROUBLES...

BUT  
IT'S NOW  
SUCH A BIG  
PART OF  
MY JOB.

WHEN  
I WAS  
YOUNGER,  
I WASN'T  
VERY GOOD  
AT TALK-  
ING TO  
PEOPLE...



IF YOU  
EVER NEED  
TO TALK,  
I'M HERE  
FOR YOU...



...KATO-SAN.

I...

THERE  
WAS  
SOME-  
THING I  
WANTED  
TO TELL  
HER...

IS THAT  
WHY I'M  
STILL  
HERE...?

IS  
THERE  
SOME-  
THING...  
  
YOU  
WANT  
TO TELL  
ME?

YES?

I...  
  
UHM...

SO...

AND  
THEN  
I WAS  
ABLE TO  
SEE YOU  
AGAIN...

EVEN  
THOUGH  
WE  
WEREN'T  
IN THE  
SAME  
CLASS...  
  
WE  
STUDIED  
AND  
LAUGHED  
TOGETHER.

IT WAS  
SO MUCH  
FUN SEEING  
YOU EVERY  
DAY AT THE  
NURSE'S  
OFFICE.

Fasting  
Diet

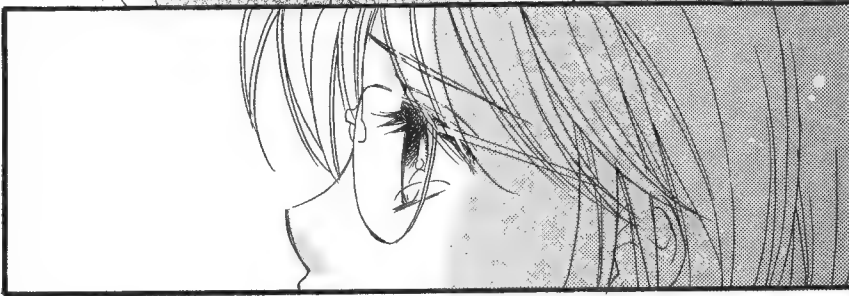




I'M  
SO GLAD  
YOU'RE  
DOING  
WELL,  
KOMATSU-  
SAN.

YOU  
BECAME A  
GREAT SCHOOL  
NURSE, JUST  
LIKE I KNEW  
YOU WOULD.

I WAS  
REALLY  
HAPPY!



I CAN  
FINALLY  
TELL  
HER...

AND...

AND...

I'M  
SORRY WE  
COULDN'T  
BE IN  
THE SAME  
CLASS.









OKAY, LET'S  
TRY THE SCENE  
WHERE THE  
PRINCESS IS  
CAPTURED.

UP UNTIL  
THAT MOMENT,  
I WAS REALLY  
HAPPY.

I FELT LIKE  
A PRINCESS.

R-  
RIGHT...

Umm...

Bird of a Knife.  
Heard like a Stone

I'M JUST NOT  
SURE HOW IT  
FEELS TO BE A  
"CAPTURED  
PRINCESS"...

I WAS  
CHOSEN  
TO STAR  
IN A PLAY  
FOR THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL...

I GOT TO  
BE THE  
PRIN-  
CESS, A  
ROLE ALL  
THE GIRLS  
WANTED...

WE'D  
STAYED  
AFTER  
SCHOOL TO  
PRACTICE  
OUR LINES.

Hmm.

WELL  
THEN...

BECAUSE  
MY  
PRINCE  
WAS  
TACHIBANA-  
SAN, A  
COOL AND  
POPULAR  
SEMPAI.

WHAT'S  
WRONG,  
ABE-SAN?

Bird of a Knife



SLIP

LIP  
UNTIL  
THAT  
MO-  
MENT...

HOW  
ABOUT  
THIS?

EH...?

TIE  
#  
ユ

UNRAVEL

い  
は  
お  
...

S-  
SEMPAI...

AND IF  
WE UNDO  
YOUR  
BRAIDS...

DOES THAT  
MAKE YOU  
FEEL MORE  
LIKE A  
"CAPTURED  
PRINCESS"  
NOW?

THERE.  
I'VE  
BOUND  
YOUR  
WRISTS.





BA-  
THUMP

NO...

I'll hold  
it for  
you.



TRY A FEW  
LINES,  
PRINCESS.

BA-  
THUMP

"NO, MY  
PRINCE.  
I SHALL  
NOT."

"IF I COULD  
USE MAGIC,  
I'D TURN YOU  
TO STONE."

I'M...

"I WILL  
THEN PIN  
YOU UPON MY  
CHEST AS A  
BROOCH."

I'M SO  
NERVOUS  
I CAN  
HARDLY  
SPEAK...

"AND  
POLISH  
YOU  
WITH MY  
KISS..."

"AND  
WITH MY  
KISS--"

EH?



CHAPTER 3  
KISS, LOVE, AND MY PRINCE









Squee!  
♡  
So cool!  
♡

Ah.

HELLO,  
TACHIBANA-  
SEMPAI!  
♡

IT'S ONLY  
THANKS TO THE  
DRAMA CLUB'S  
COACHING THAT  
SHE'S THE STAR  
OF THE  
SCHOOL.

SHE'S A  
COMPLETE  
MORON.

EVERYONE  
CALLS HER  
"TACHIBANA  
THE DRAMA  
CLUB PRINCE,"  
BUT IN  
REALITY...

Sigh...

G-GOOD  
AFTER-  
NOON.

HEE HEE!

Cool and  
Intelligent!!



BESIDES,  
THIS IS  
FIRST TIME  
YOU'VE  
MENTIONED  
IT!

ARE YOU  
JOKING?  
YOUR FANS  
WOULD  
HATE  
THAT!!

BUT...  
LIM...

Urk...



I DIDN'T  
EVEN WANT  
TO BE THE  
PRINCE.

CAN'T I  
BE THE EVIL  
WITCH WHO  
TRIES TO  
TEAR THE  
LOVERS  
APART?

CLAP

Hmph!



BUT...  
WHEN I SAW  
WHO THE LEAD  
ACTRESS  
WAS...

...

AND...?

HUH?

SHE  
HASN'T  
SHOWN UP  
FOR RE-  
HEARSAL.

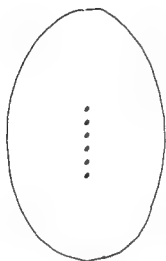
HOW DID  
ABE-SAN  
REACT?

ERR...  
WELL...

GO  
APOLOGIZE  
TO HER,  
RIGHT  
NOW!!







IS...IS  
SOMETHING  
WRONG?



...THEN  
YOU'RE NOT  
PHYSICALLY  
ATTRACTED  
TO THAT  
PERSON.

JUST IMAGINE  
THE TWO OF  
YOU KISSING.  
IF YOUR FIRST  
REACTION IS  
"EWW!  
GROSS!!"...

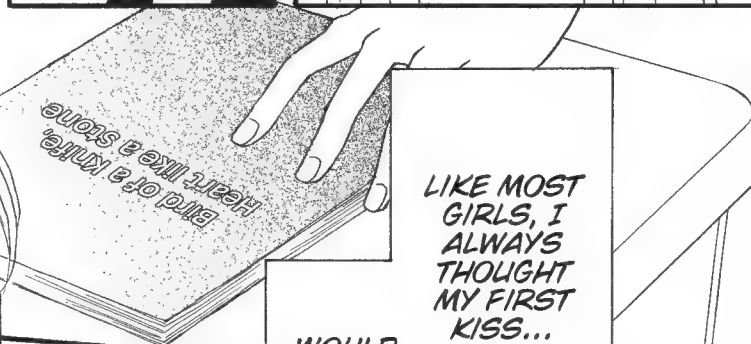


WHAT  
?!

W-WHY  
DO YOU  
WANT TO  
KNOW?



NANA-  
CHIN, HAVE  
YOU EVER  
KISSED  
SOMEONE?



LIKE MOST  
GIRLS, I  
ALWAYS  
THOUGHT  
MY FIRST  
KISS...

WOULD  
COME  
FROM A  
CUTE  
BOY.

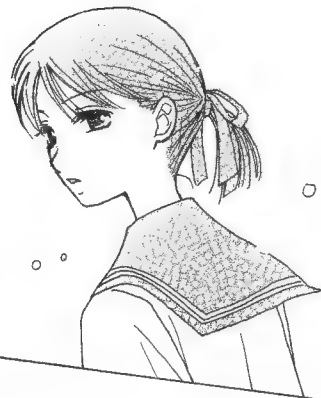
EVEN IF  
HE WAS  
JUST AN  
ORDINARY  
GUY...

IN THAT  
MOMENT,  
HE WOULD  
BECOME  
MY  
PRINCE.





PRINCE  
...



A  
DASH-  
ING...



No  
escape! ♡



Umm...  
I DON'T  
THINK  
YOU'RE  
GOING ANY-  
WHERE...



PLIP

DON'T  
WORRY,  
I'M FINE!  
LET'S GET  
GOING!

UH, ABE-  
CHAN...?



WHY  
DO I  
HAVE TO  
APOLO-  
GIZE?

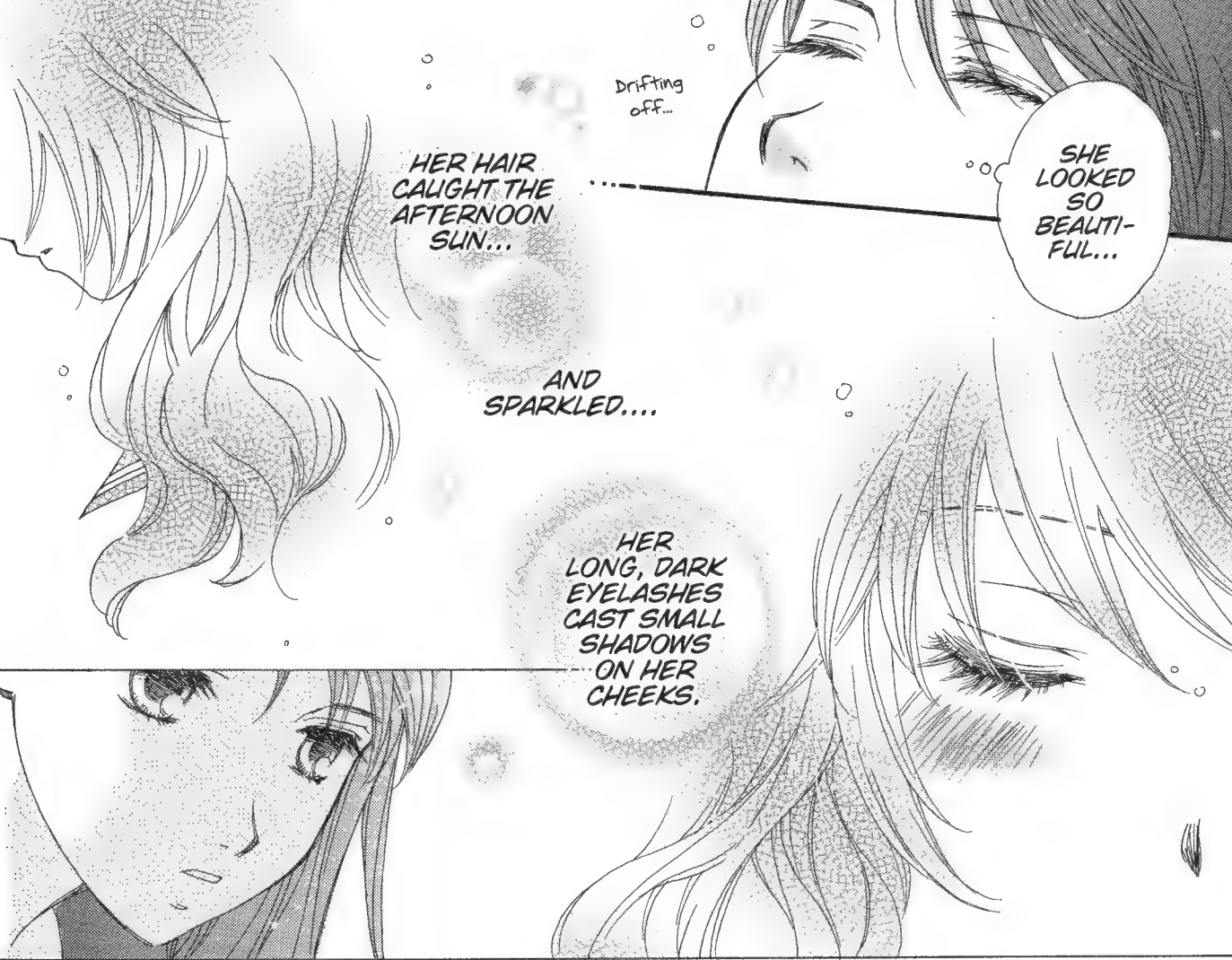
PLOP

Sigh...



UGH!





Drifting  
off...

HER HAIR  
CAUGHT THE  
AFTERNOON  
SUN...

SHE  
LOOKED  
SO  
BEAUTI-  
FUL...

AND  
SPARKLED....

HER  
LONG, DARK  
EYELASHES  
CAST SMALL  
SHADOWS  
ON HER  
CHEEKS.



BUT...

AS SOON  
AS I UNTIED  
THE RIBBON,  
SHE BOLTED.

I...  
SHOULDN'T  
HAVE  
UNTIED  
HER.

ZOOF

No guilt  
at all!



ABE-SAN,  
CAN YOU  
PLEASE  
COME TO  
REHEARSALS  
AGAIN?

WE  
HEARD  
WHAT  
HAPPEN-  
ED...



*She  
disappeared  
on us!*

WE'RE  
SO SORRY!  
WE TOLD  
TACHIBANA-  
SAN TO  
APOLOGIZE,  
BUT...

Eh?

!



TACHIBANA-  
SAN OFTEN  
ACTS  
WITHOUT  
THINKING.

*Sorry...*

SHE  
LOOKS  
COOL, BUT  
SHE'S  
REALLY  
A BIT OF  
A SPACE  
CASE.

BUT  
TACHIBANA-  
SAN  
PROBABLY  
MEANT NO  
HARM, YOU  
KNOW?

WE UNDER-  
STAND YOUR  
FEELINGS,  
ABE-SAN...



*TWITCH*



SOMETIMES  
SHE GETS  
A LITTLE  
TOO INTO  
HER ROLE...

YOU WERE  
PRACTICING  
YOUR LINES,  
RIGHT?

*Hey, no  
need to  
go that  
far...*

WOW  
WOW



TACHIBANA-  
SEMPAI DIDN'T  
MEAN ANY-  
THING BY IT.

I  
KNOW...

SE...

SEMPAI...

"NO  
NEED..."

HUH?

"I WILL  
TURN  
INTO AN  
ISLAND,  
OR A  
ROCK..."

"OR  
ANYTHING  
ELSE YOU  
WANT ME  
TO BE,  
PRINCESS."

IF  
YOU  
BUT  
WISH  
IT..."

WHO  
WERE YOU  
LOOKING  
AT?

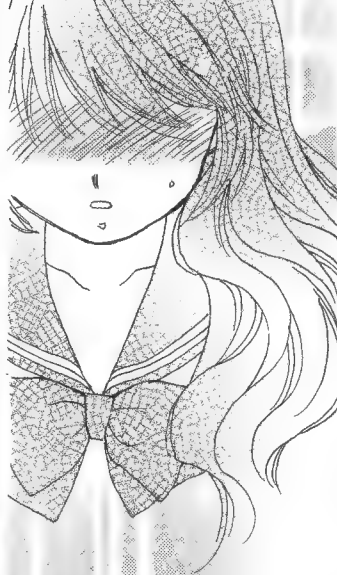
WHO  
WERE YOU  
CONFESSING  
YOUR LOVE  
TO?

WAS IT  
ME, OR THE  
CAPTURED  
PRINCESS?

WHO  
DID YOU  
KISS?



I  
WANTED  
IT TO BE  
THE REAL  
THING!



EITHER WAY,  
THAT WAS MY  
FIRST KISS...

"PRIN-  
CESS  
...?"



WHAT...?

SOME-  
ONE  
ELSE  
WILL  
KISS  
TACHI-  
BANA-  
SEMPAI  
...?



WE  
CAN FIND  
SOMEONE  
ELSE TO  
PLAY THE  
PRINCESS.

WE  
TOTALLY  
UNDERSTAND  
IF YOU DON'T  
WANT TO BE  
IN THE  
PLAY.

OH MY  
GOSH!  
DON'T CRY,  
ABE-SAN!  
WE DIDN'T  
MEAN TO  
PRESSURE  
YOU.











HUH  
...?

I ONLY  
AGREED TO  
BE THE PRINCE  
BECAUSE YOU  
WERE THE  
PRINCESS.

KISS  
SOMEONE  
I DON'T  
LIKE.

Sigh...

I COULD  
NEVER...

WHAT?

THEN  
THAT  
MEANS--!

WAIT...

...

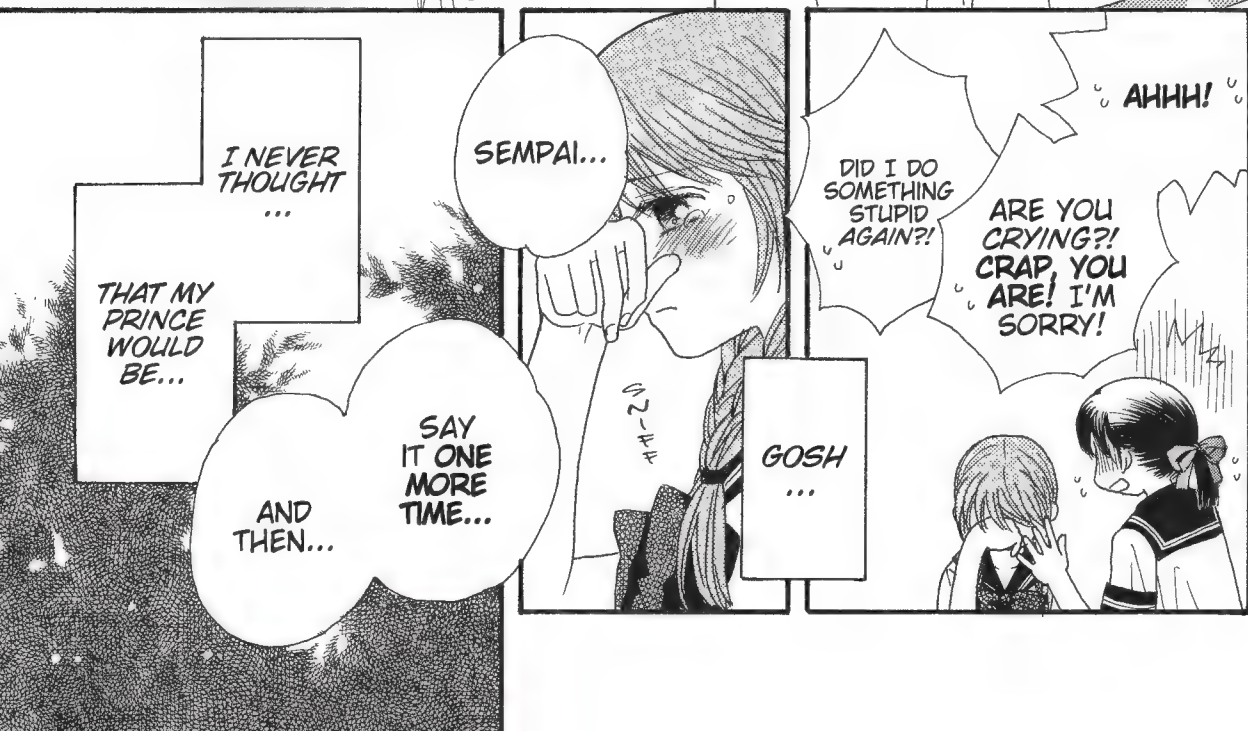
...



I MUST  
LIKE YOU  
A LOT,  
NARUMI-  
CHAN!

SO,  
UMM...

ABOUT THE  
CULTURAL  
FESTIVAL...



I NEVER  
THOUGHT  
...

THAT MY  
PRINCE  
WOULD  
BE...

AND  
THEN...

SAY  
IT ONE  
MORE  
TIME...

SEMPAI...

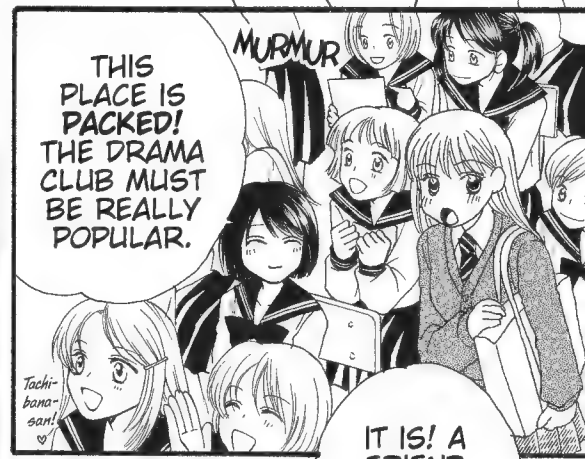
DID I DO  
SOMETHING  
STUPID  
AGAIN?!

ARE YOU  
CRYING?!  
CRAP, YOU  
ARE! I'M  
SORRY!

GOSH  
...

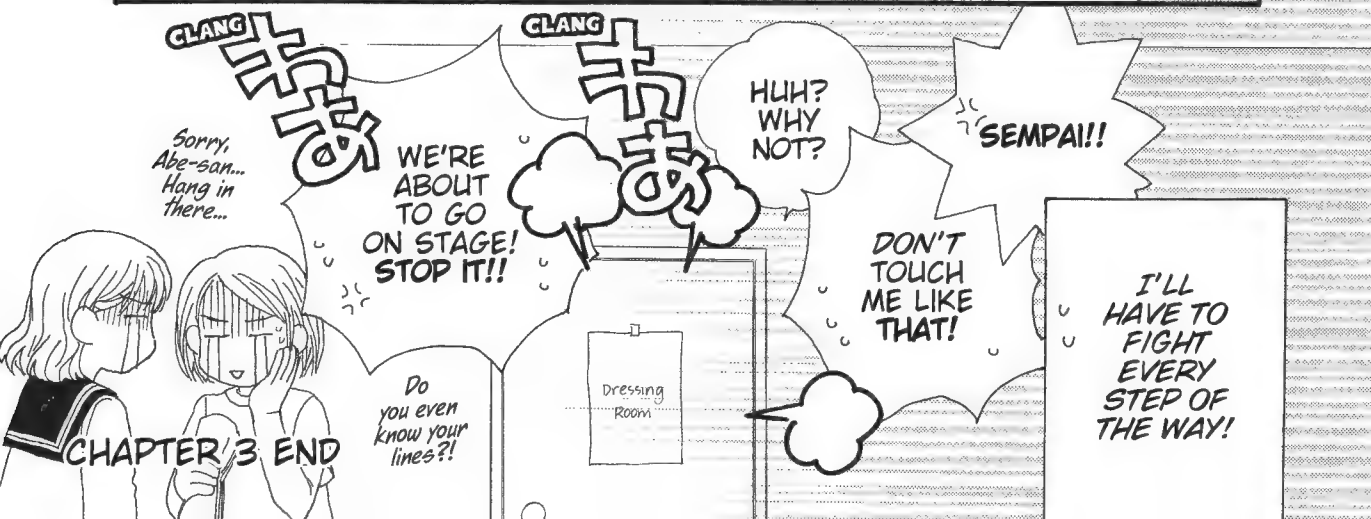
“ AHHH! ”















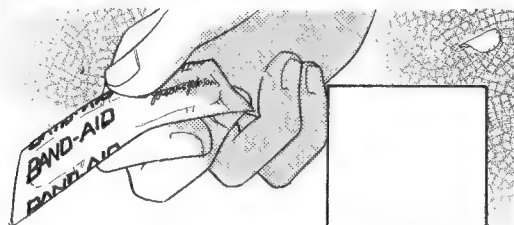
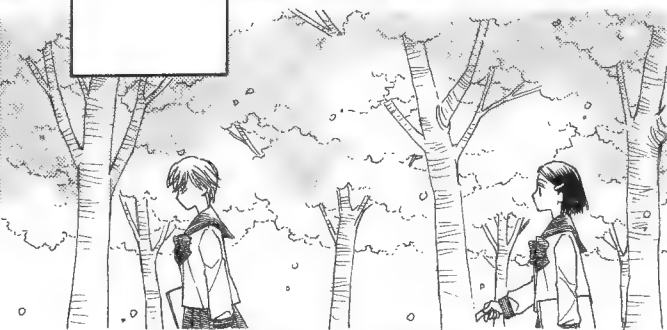
くちびるためいきさくらいろ

K u c h i b i r u T a m e i k i S a k u r a i r o



THIS  
WAS THE  
FIRST TIME  
SOMEONE  
REFUSED...

MY  
OFFER  
TO  
HELP.



AFTER  
THAT...

I DECIDED  
I WOULD  
JUST  
IGNORE  
EVERYONE  
WHO  
HADN'T  
GONE TO  
SAKURAKAI  
THEIR  
WHOLE  
LIVES.



IT'S NONE  
OF YOUR  
BUSINESS.

JUST  
LEAVE  
ME  
ALONE!





BUT THEY  
ALWAYS  
SEEMED  
TO HAVE  
BOY-  
FRIENDS  
FROM  
OTHER  
SCHOOLS.

IT'S NOT  
LIKE I  
ACTIVELY  
AVOIDED  
THEM...

AND THEY  
TALKED  
ABOUT  
STUFF WE  
WEREN'T  
FAMILIAR  
WITH.



SO WE  
WERE  
JUST  
CLASS-  
MATES...

ALL THE  
WAY UP  
TO THE  
THIRD  
YEAR  
OF HIGH  
SCHOOL.


BUT...

EVERY  
NOW AND  
THEN, I  
WOULD  
GLANCE  
AT HER  
NECK...

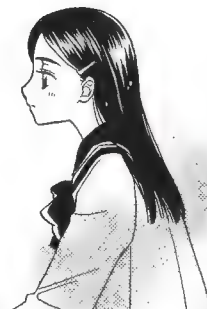
CHAPTER 4  
REMEMBER THIS LOVE SOMEDAY



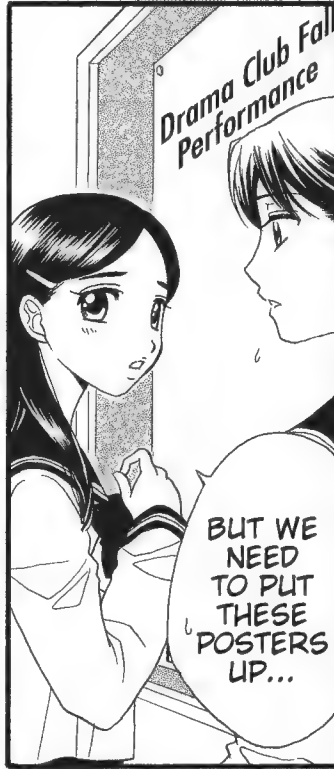
IT WAS AS  
WHITE AND  
SMOOTH AS  
PORCELAIN.

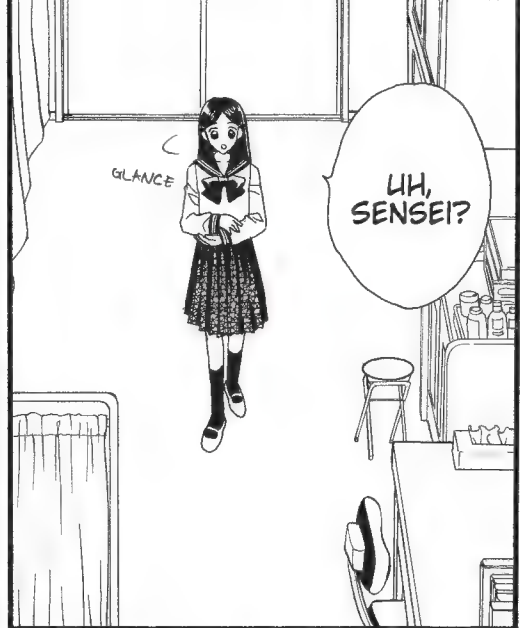


I WOULD  
WONDER  
WHAT  
IT FELT  
LIKE...





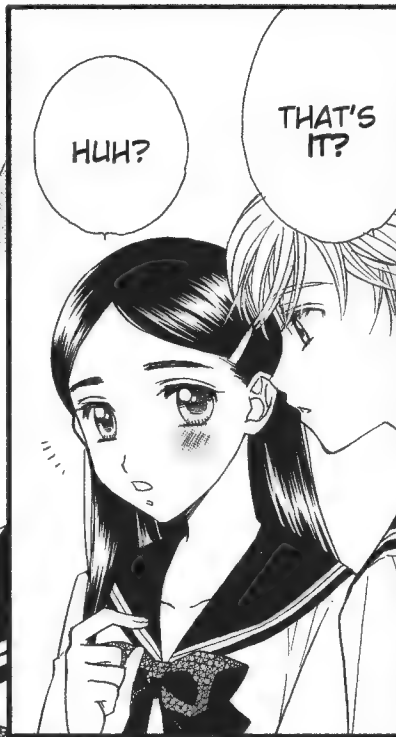








DON'T  
WORRY,  
PRINCESS...  
I THINK  
YOU'LL  
SURVIVE.



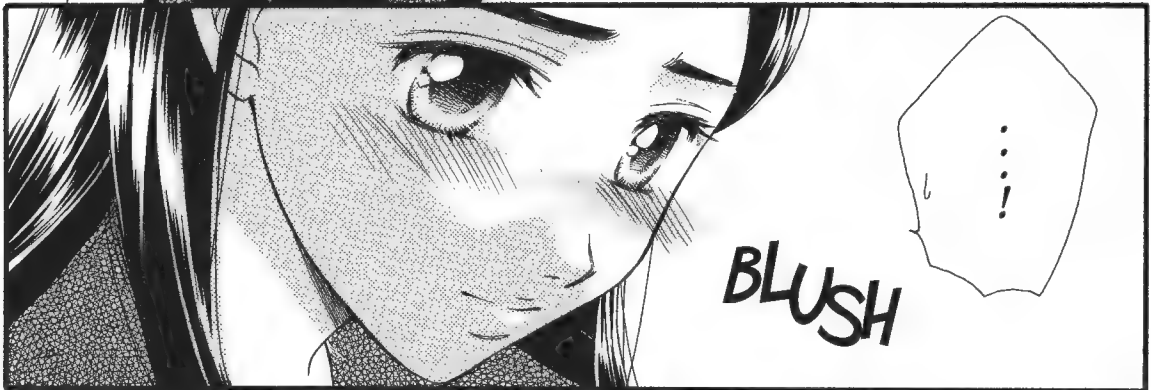
HUH?

THAT'S  
IT?



OOZE...

I, UH,  
POKED MY  
FINGER  
WITH A  
TACK...



...  
!

BLUSH

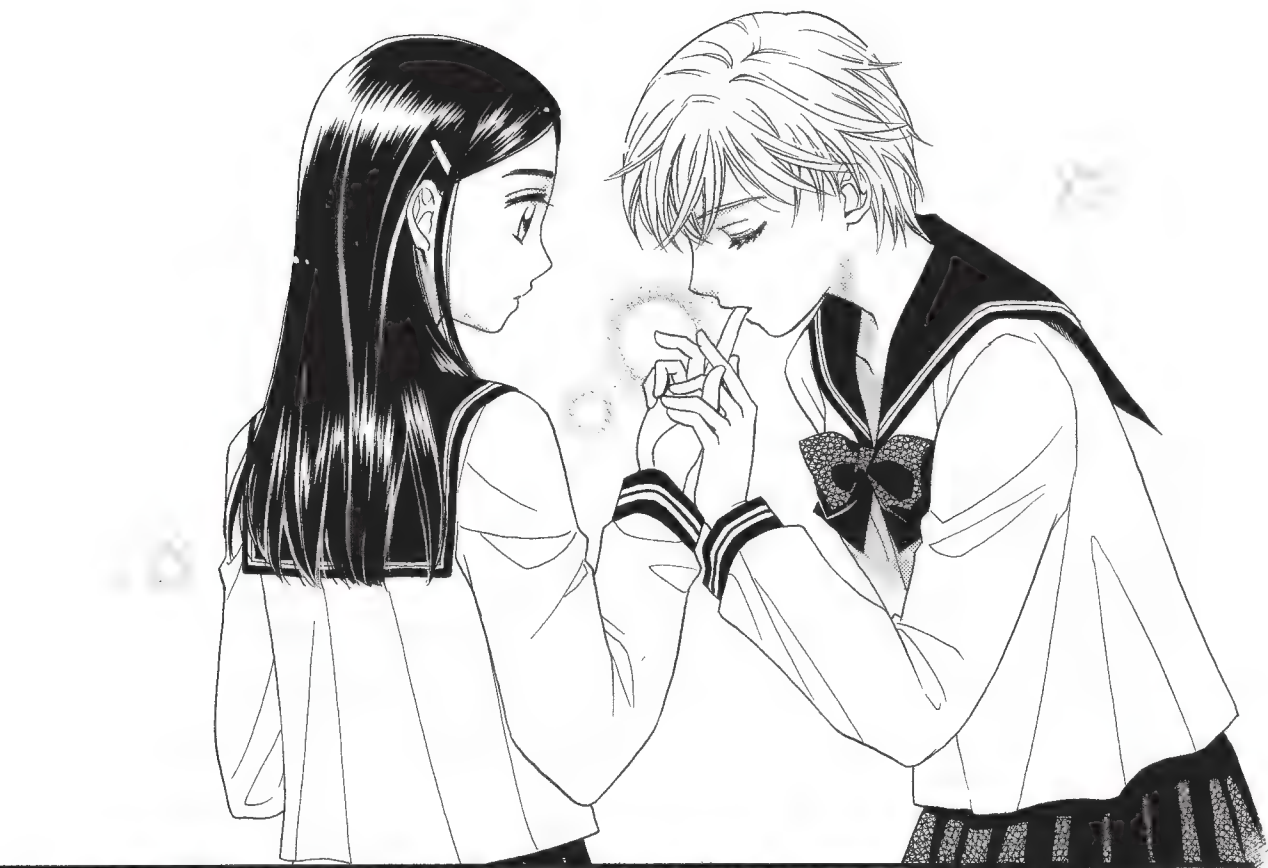


MEOW

TWITCH



MIZU...







I STARTED  
HAVING...

THE  
SAME  
DREAM  
EVERY  
NIGHT...

IN THE  
DREAM,  
SHE AND  
I WERE  
BEST  
FRIENDS...

WE ATE  
LUNCH AND  
SHOPPED  
TOGETHER...



BUT...

ON  
HER  
NECK...



CHIRP  
CHIRP  
CHIRP

OH  
GOD...

COUGH

COUGH

I'M FINE,  
REALLY!

ARE YOU  
SURE? YOU  
DON'T LOOK  
SO GOOD.

Lemme  
see.

YOU  
HAVE  
BEEN  
KIND  
OF OUT  
OF IT  
LATELY.

Don't  
get too  
close!

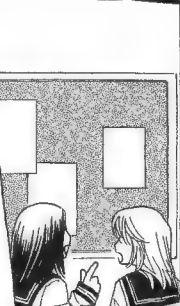
JUST A  
SORE  
THROAT.

COUGH

CHISATO,  
DO YOU  
HAVE A  
COLD?

SHOPE

ACTU-  
ALLY...





Ah  
ha  
ha!

AGAIN?  
YOU'RE  
PROBABLY  
JUST ANEMIC  
BECAUSE  
YOU DON'T  
EAT MEAT.

YEAH,  
I WAS  
JUST A  
LITTLE  
LIGHT-  
HEADED.

HEY,  
MIZUKI,  
FEELING  
BETTER?

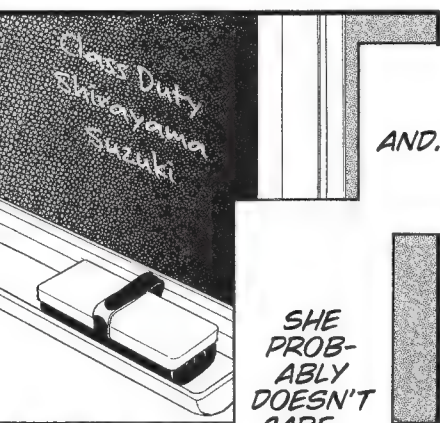
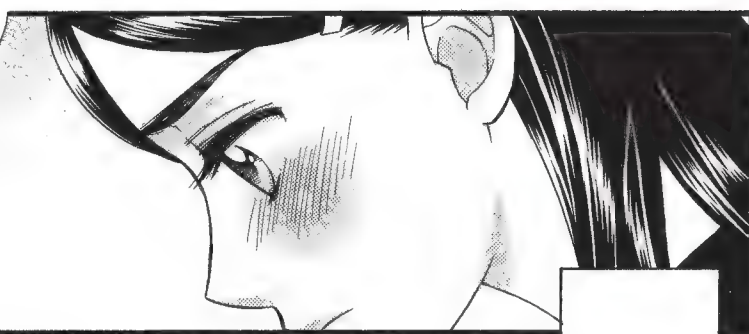


NOT  
ENOUGH  
IRON,  
RIGHT?

MAYBE  
YOU  
SHOULD  
START  
GNAWING  
ON BALL  
BEAR-  
INGS!

No  
way!

Ahahaha!



AND...

HAND-  
OUTS.  
WHO'S  
ON DUTY  
TODAY?

WHAT'S  
THAT?

.....

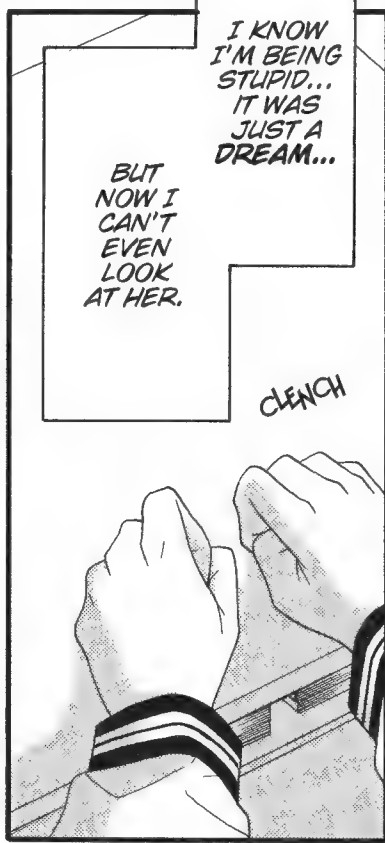
SHE  
PROB-  
ABLY  
DOESN'T  
CARE...

SUZUKI-  
SAN!



I KNOW  
I'M BEING  
STUPID...  
IT WAS  
JUST A  
DREAM...  
  
BUT  
NOW I  
CAN'T  
EVEN  
LOOK  
AT HER.

CLENCH









YOU  
FEEL  
WARM...

SUZUKI-  
SAN, DO  
YOU HAVE  
A COLD?

I'M SO  
STUPID...



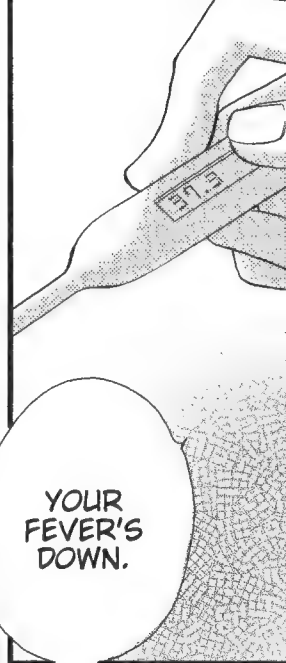
THE NEXT DAY,  
ALL I WANTED  
TO DO WAS  
STAY IN BED  
AND HIDE.

I'M  
SORRY...

I'M...

AH...!





SUZUKI-SAN, CAN I  
COME IN?

GA-CHAK

EH?

HUH?

WH-  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING  
HERE?

UOGE

YOU  
LOOK A  
LOT LIKE  
YOUR  
MOTHER,  
SUZUKI-  
SAN.

I  
WANT-  
ED TO  
CHECK  
ON YOU...

YOU  
LOOKED  
REALLY  
SICK  
YESTER-  
DAY.

IT'S  
NOT  
THAT  
BAD...

UOGE





IT'S  
OKAY...



I  
KNOW  
YOU DON'T  
LIKE ME,  
SUZUKI-  
SAN.

I  
SHOULD  
APOLO-  
GIZE...

BA-THUMP

LIMM...  
I...



BA-THUMP

NOCE

BA-THUMP

ERR...



!

BUT  
WHEN  
WE WERE  
IN FIRST  
YEAR...



YOU  
MIGHT  
NOT  
REMEM-  
BER...

WHAT?



BUT I  
WANTED TO  
APOLOGIZE  
TO YOU.



I WAS NEW TO SAKURAKAI AND I DIDN'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS...


I HAD A MARK ON MY NECK AND IT STARTED A LOT OF RUMORS.



UHM...



MIZUKI-SAN, RIGHT?



IF A TEACHER SEES YOUR NECK, YOU MIGHT GET IN TROUBLE...

I KNEW YOU MEANT WELL, BUT I WAS SO EMBARRASSED.



USE THIS TO COVER IT UP!



IT'S OKAY. THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO...

SURE, BUT...

BUT I ACTED LIKE A JERK AND SNAPPED AT YOU.

Haha!

YOU WERE REALLY NICE AND WAITED UNTIL WE WERE ALONE...

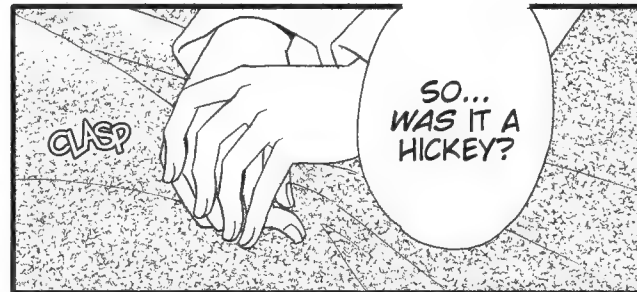




I STILL  
REMEM-  
BER...

I'M  
STILL  
REALLY  
SORRY.

THE RED  
MARK  
ON HER  
NECK.

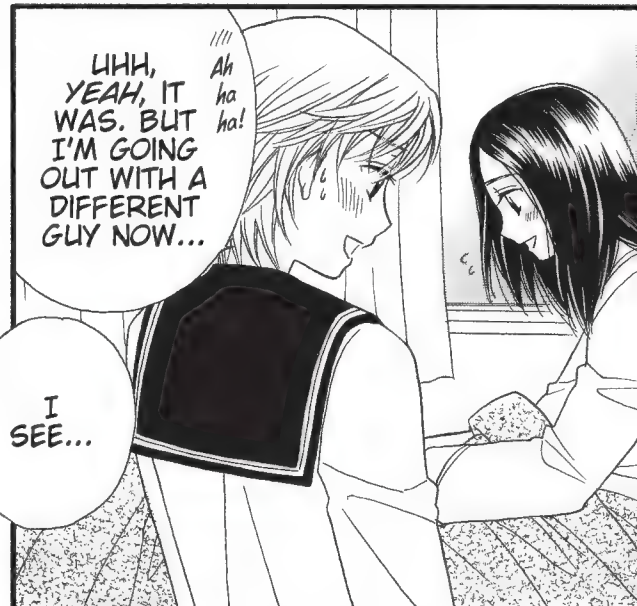


SO...  
WAS IT A  
HICKEY?

CLASP

WHEN  
SHE WAS  
MEAN TO  
ME BEFORE,  
IT REALLY  
HURT...

BUT NOW  
THAT SHE'S  
BEING NICE  
TO ME,  
SOMEHOW  
IT HURTS  
EVEN MORE.



UHH,  
YEAH, IT  
WAS. BUT  
I'M GOING  
OUT WITH A  
DIFFERENT  
GUY NOW...

///  
Ah  
ha  
ha!

I  
SEE...

LIKE  
YOUR  
BOY-  
FRIEND?

DO  
YOU...

HUH?



It's embarrassing!

SUZUKI-SAN, DO YOU HAVE A BOY-FRIEND?

I...



I DON'T WANT TO FALL IN LOVE.



I DON'T WANT TO BE IN LOVE...



BE-CAUSE...

OH! HELLO AGAIN...

SLIDE





TAKE IT EASY UNTIL I GET BACK.

I JUST HAVE TO STEP OUT FOR A MINUTE.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIE DOWN FOR A BIT?

HMM, YOUR FACE WAS REALLY RED THE OTHER DAY.

I STILL HAVE A BIT OF A FEVER...



LYING HERE MAKES ME FEEL CLOSER TO HER...

I KNEW...

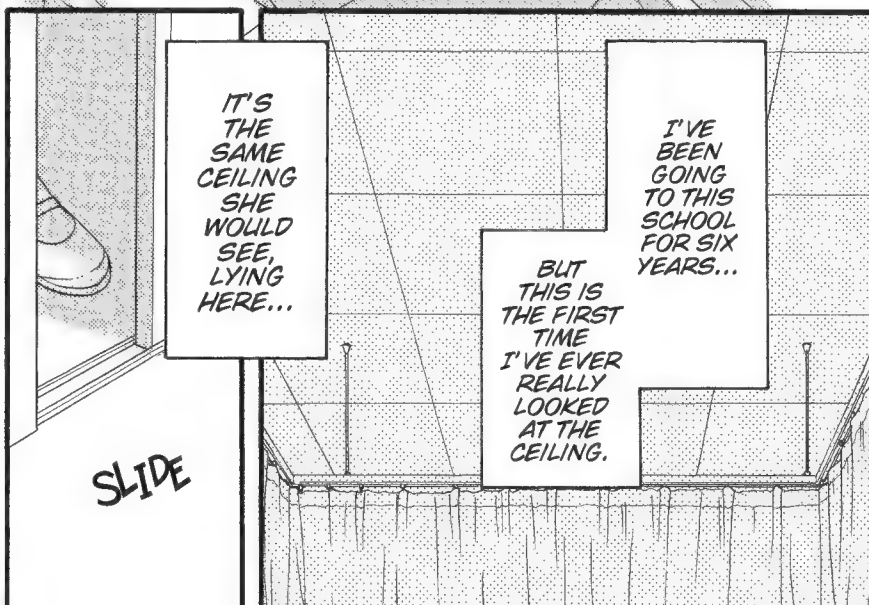
SHE ALWAYS SLEPT IN THIS BED WHEN SHE CAME TO THE NURSE'S OFFICE.



EH?

SENSEI ...

CAN I TALK TO YOU ABOUT SOMETHING?

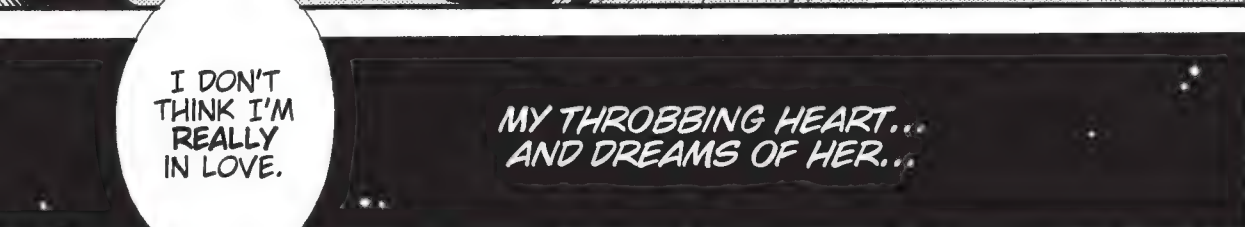


IT'S THE SAME CEILING SHE WOULD SEE, LYING HERE...

I'VE BEEN GOING TO THIS SCHOOL FOR SIX YEARS...

BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER REALLY LOOKED AT THE CEILING.

SLIDE







IT'S  
JUST A  
CRUSH.  
THAT'S  
ALL.

THE  
WAY I  
FEEL  
ABOUT  
HER...

I  
KNOW I'M  
GETTING  
MYSELF  
WORKED  
UP OVER  
NOTHING.



IS IT  
SILLY TO  
WORRY  
SO MUCH  
ABOUT  
IT?

I  
MEAN,  
WHAT IF I  
EVER FALL  
IN LOVE  
FOR  
REAL?!

WHAT  
IF IT HURTS  
EVEN MORE  
THAN THIS?

I DON'T  
THINK  
I'D BE  
ABLE TO  
HANDLE  
THE PAIN.

THAT'S  
WHY I  
DON'T  
WANT TO  
FALL IN  
LOVE.



Ha!

I'M  
SORRY...

I  
DON'T  
USUALLY  
GO ON  
AND ON  
LIKE  
THIS...



FIND  
MY TRUE  
LOVE...?  
REALLY?

AND YOU'LL  
FIND YOUR  
TRUE LOVE,  
SUZUKI-SAN.

SOME-  
DAY THE  
PAIN WILL  
FADE...

SENSEI?

DON'T  
WORRY.



YES,  
SOMEDAY...

I'LL FALL  
IN LOVE  
WITH SOME-  
ONE OTHER  
THAN HER...



...

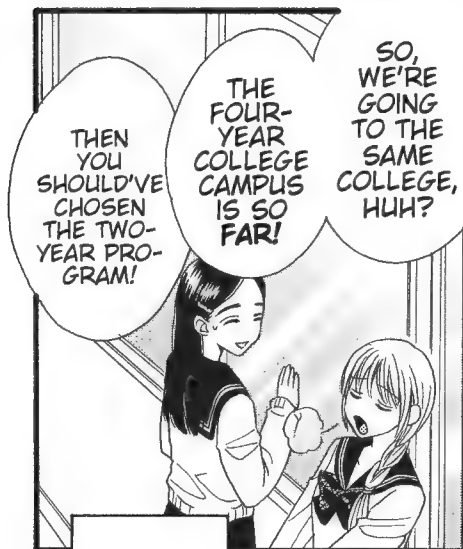
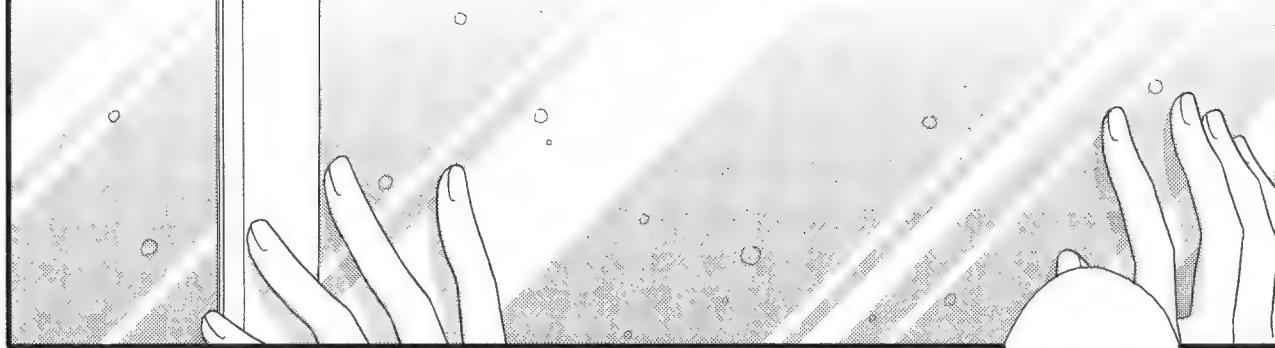


GLASS

SLIDE

Nurse's  
Office





THEN YOU SHOULD'VE CHOSEN THE TWO-YEAR PROGRAM!

THE FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE CAMPUS IS SO FAR!

SO, WE'RE GOING TO THE SAME COLLEGE, HUH?



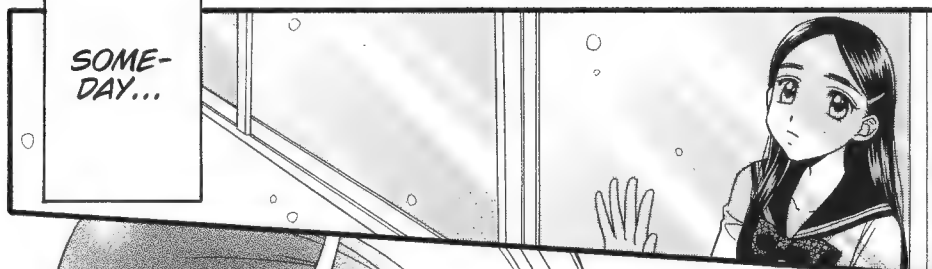
I'M GOING TO THE TWO-YEAR COLLEGE HERE.



SORRY!

BUT THAT MEANS YOU'RE NOT GOING TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS US!

SO YOU GOT THE SCHOLARSHIP, MIZUKI?



SOME-DAY...



I'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH SOMEONE ELSE.

BUT EACH TIME...

I'LL REMEMBER MY FIRST LOVE.

CHAPTER 5  
IF I KISS HER RING FINGER







HER LONG  
FINGERS  
THREAD  
THROUGH  
MY HAIR...



WHEN I  
OPEN MY  
EYES...



AND  
HER  
SOFT  
LIPS...

I  
SEE HER  
BEAUTIFUL,  
SMOOTH  
SKIN...



WHEN  
SHE CALLS  
MY NAME...



I FEEL  
LIKE  
CRYING...



I WRAP  
MY ARMS  
AROUND  
HER...

WE PRESS  
AGAINST  
EACH OTHER,  
LEAVING NO  
GAPS...



WE LOOK INTO  
EACH OTHER'S EYES  
AND KISS UNTIL THE  
WORLD MELTS AWAY...



AND  
THEN...



THE FEAR WE HAVE IN OUR  
HEARTS DISAPPEARS...

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

BECAUSE  
WE HAVE  
EACH  
OTHER...

SLAM

CLICK

しゅっ!

I'M  
IN THE  
MIDDLE  
OF MID-  
TERMS...

BUT I  
HAVEN'T  
BEEN  
SLEEPING  
MUCH.

Jeez...

OH MY  
GOD!

WHAT A  
DREAM...

BA-THUMP

BA-THUMP

Nana,  
time  
to  
get  
up!

CHIRP  
チリン  
ン

GRASP

GRASP

...

BUT...

TODAY  
I CAN  
FINALLY  
SEE  
HER.

I JUST  
HOPE I  
DON'T  
BOMB  
MY MID-  
TERMS.

I'VE  
BEEN  
PRACTICALLY  
SLEEP-  
WALKING  
THROUGH  
SCHOOL...

Sigh...

magazines

!!! MAYBE  
THAT'S  
WHY I  
HAD THAT  
DREAM...

I WANTED  
TO FOCUS  
ON STUDYING,  
SO I HAVEN'T  
CALLED OR  
TEXTED HER  
AT ALL THIS  
WEEK.

NANA!  
SORRY  
FOR  
BEING  
LATE!!

HM,  
THIS  
MODEL  
LOOKS  
LIKE  
HER...

I  
MEAN,  
WE  
HAVEN'T  
GONE  
THAT  
FAR  
YET...

I'M  
SUCH A  
PER-  
VERT!

WHY  
WOULD I  
DREAM  
THAT?

THOUGH  
WE HAVE  
KISSED.

GLOMP  
DROP



REALLY?

That's right.

IT'S OKAY!  
I WAS SHOP-  
PING.

And you don't  
have basketball  
practice today...

I'm  
really  
sorry!

NANA,  
YOU GOT  
OUT EARLY  
TODAY,  
RIGHT?

WERE  
YOU  
WAITING  
A LONG  
TIME?

THEY SAY  
THAT IN  
RELATION-  
SHIPS, THE  
FIRST ONE  
TO FALL IN  
LOVE IS AT A  
DISADVAN-  
TAGE...

HMM.  
ACTUALLY,  
HITOMI IS  
PRETTIER  
THAN THAT  
MODEL...

BUT  
I DIS-  
AGREE.

HITOMI  
AND I HAVE  
BEEN BEST  
FRIENDS  
SINCE WE  
WERE KIDS...

BUT WE'VE  
BEEN MORE  
THAN JUST  
"FRIENDS"  
FOR THE  
PAST SIX  
MONTHS.



HOW'D  
YOUR  
MID-TERMS  
GO?

WE  
WERE AS  
CLOSE AS  
FRIENDS  
COULD BE.

UNTIL WE  
WENT TO  
DIFFER-  
ENT HIGH  
SCHOOLS,  
WE SPENT  
EVERY DAY  
TOGETHER.

OUR  
SCHOOL  
ONLY HAS TWO  
SEMESTERS,  
SO WE ONLY  
HAVE BIG  
TESTS FOUR  
TIMES A  
YEAR.

UH, I  
KINDA  
CRASHED  
AND  
BURNED...

HITOMI  
HAS  
ALWAYS  
BEEN  
TALL,  
PRETTY,  
AND  
GLAMOR-  
OUS...

IT'S LIKE  
THE AIR  
AROUND  
HER HAS  
INTENSIFIED.

BUT  
LATELY  
SHE  
SEEMS  
EVEN  
PRETTIER  
THAN  
BEFORE.



I WANT  
TO SEE  
HER  
ALL THE  
TIME...

AND  
HEAR  
HER  
VOICE  
ALL DAY  
LONG.



I'M SO  
PLAIN.  
I'M  
NOTHING  
NEXT TO  
HITOMI.

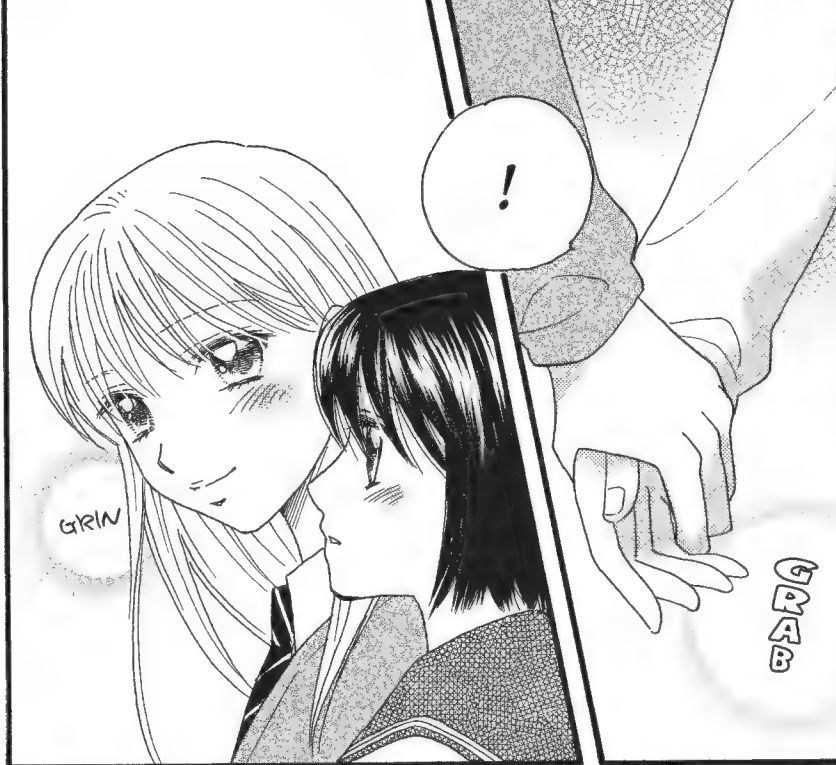
WHAT  
DOES  
SHE SEE  
IN ME?



I THINK  
I LOVE  
HER...

MORE  
THAN  
SHE  
LOVES  
ME.



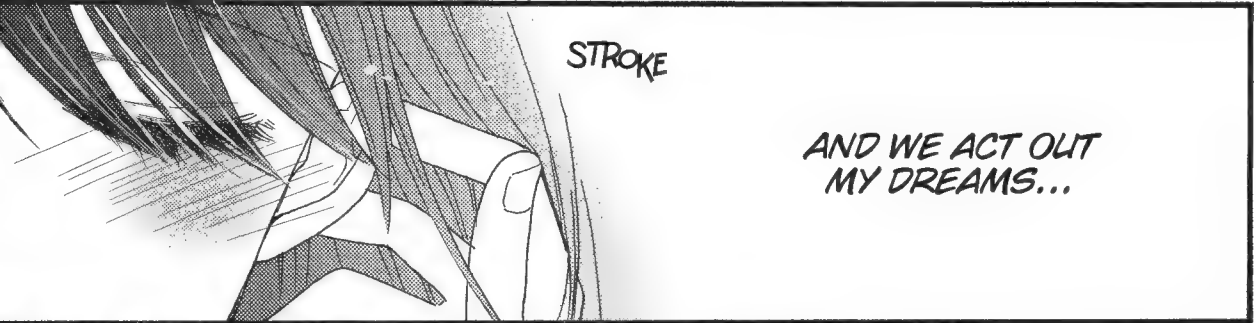


SOMETIMES I  
THINK SHE CAN  
READ MY MIND.





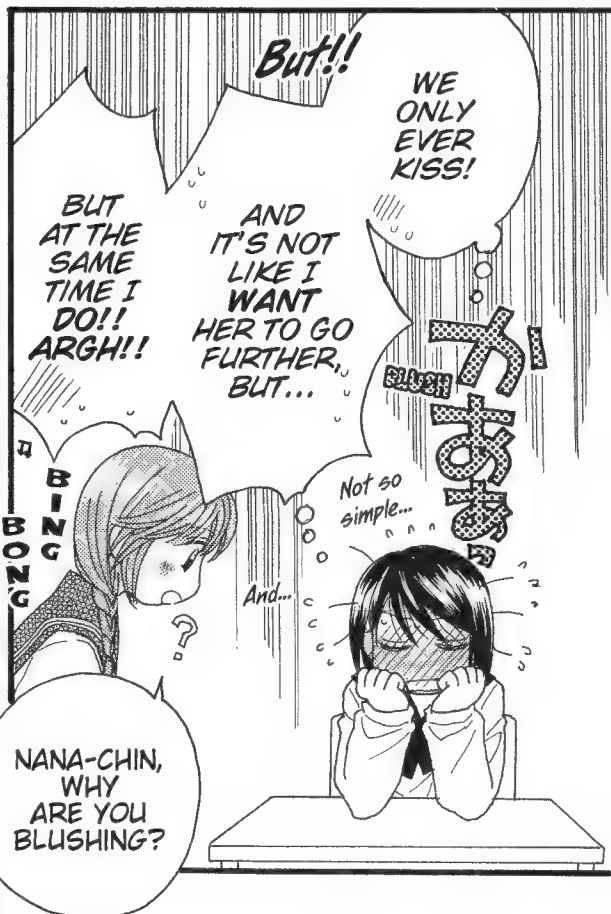
SHE TELLS ME WHAT I WANT TO HEAR...

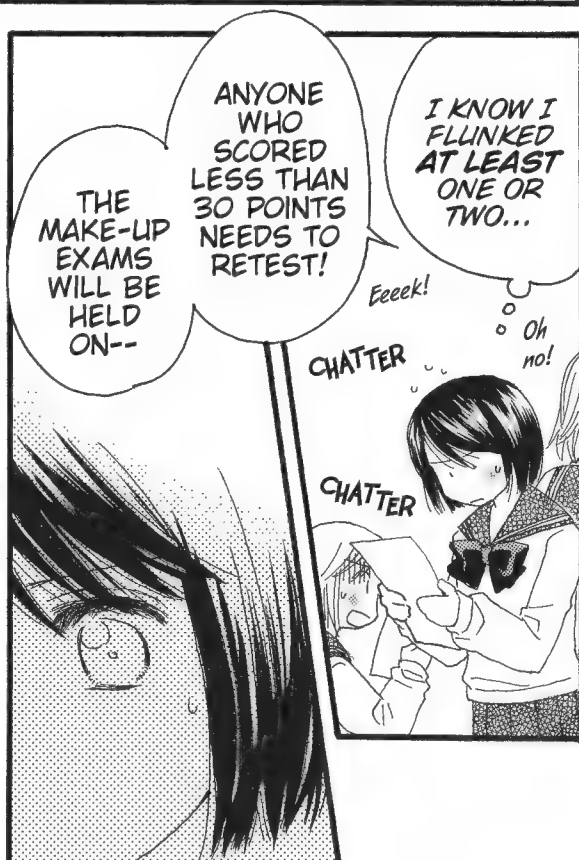
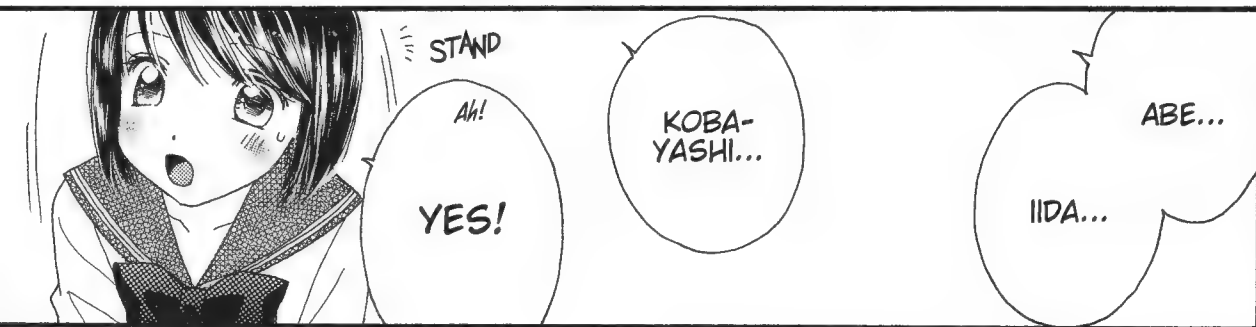


IT ALWAYS  
ENDS  
HERE.











A  
post-  
retest  
party!

Yay!

HOW  
ABOUT THE  
DAY AFTER  
THE TEST?  
IT'S A  
HOLIDAY!

AH, MY  
TRAIN'S  
HERE!

SORRY  
TO  
BOTHER  
YOU  
DURING  
PRACTICE.  
BYE!

CLICK

5000  
5000

3000

Hitomi,  
get back  
here!

CAN'T  
WE  
STUDY  
TOGETHER?

I  
NEED  
TO  
STUDY.

YEAH...  
IT'S NEXT  
WEDNESDAY,  
SO I CAN'T  
SEE YOU THIS  
WEEKEND.

I'LL  
TEXT  
YOU  
LATER.

I  
DON'T  
THINK  
THAT  
WOULD  
WORK...

I'M SO  
MAD AT  
MYSELF  
RIGHT  
NOW!

I THINK  
ABOUT  
STUPID  
THINGS  
AND  
BOMB MY  
TESTS...

SHE'S SO  
SMART AND  
PRETTY...

AND YET  
SHE STILL  
LOVES ME.

I JUST  
DON'T  
GET IT.

I'LL NEVER  
BE WORTHY  
OF HITOMI'S  
LOVE.



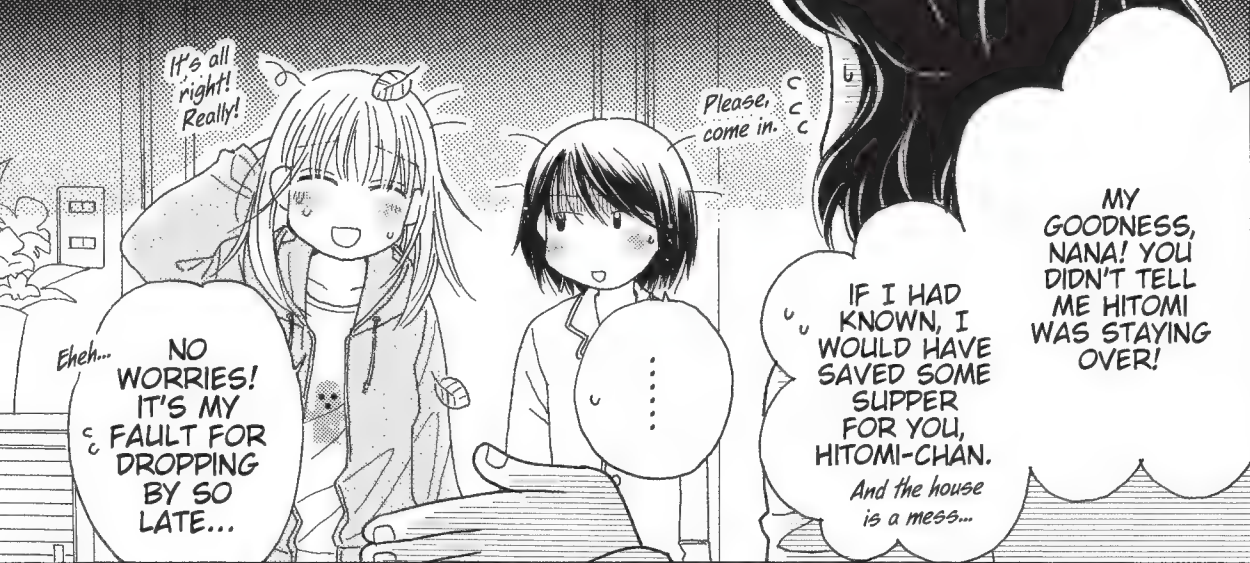
BUT  
INSTEAD, I  
WORRY...





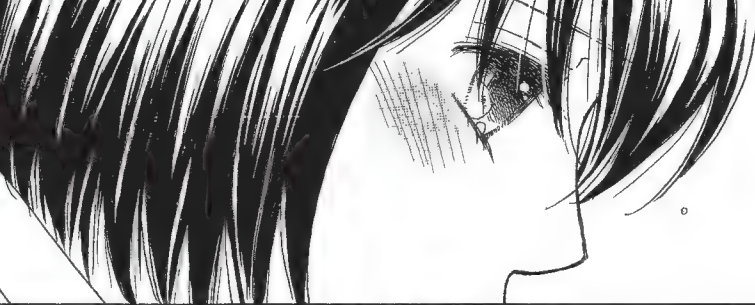


↑ Doraemon ring tone!









ME  
TOO...

MAYBE I SEE HER THAT WAY...

BECAUSE...

BECAUSE I'M IN  
LOVE WITH HER.

I  
WANTED...

TO  
SEE YOU,  
TOO.



*But...*  
I  
THOUGHT  
YOU DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
GO ANY  
FURTHER,  
NANA.

I DON'T  
MIND... JUST  
REMEMBER,  
I'M NOT AS  
PRETTY AS  
YOU, HITOMI,  
SO--

EH?

AND...

I WANT  
YOU TO  
TOUCH ME  
MORE.

HITOMI,  
I  
WANT...

I WANT  
TO TOUCH  
YOU MORE.





I'M ALWAYS WORRIED  
THAT THE MALE TEACHERS  
AT YOUR SCHOOL MIGHT  
NOTICE AND START HITTING  
ON YOU... OR PERVERTS  
ON THE TRAINS...  
OR EVEN OTHER GIRLS  
BECAUSE YOU'RE JUST  
THAT CUTE--

OKAY, I  
GET IT!

MFFT!

I'm  
worried  
all the  
time!

IN FACT...  
YOU GROW  
PRETTIER  
EVERY  
DAY...

Jeez!

AS CUTE  
AND  
PRETTY  
AS YOU,  
NANA!

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
SAYING?  
THERE'S  
NO OTHER  
GIRL...

What  
the  
hell?

Nana, you're  
adorable!  
I wuv you!

SQUEE  
SQUEE

Junior  
High

COME  
TO THINK  
OF IT...

HITOMI  
HAS  
ALWAYS  
BEEN  
LIKE  
THIS.

NO, LET  
ME SAY  
IT...

I ALWAYS  
THOUGHT...

I  
LOVE  
YOU.

I LOVE  
YOU SO  
MUCH.

NANA...

YOU'RE  
REALLY  
CUTE. I  
LOVE  
YOU.

ME?  
BUT  
WHY?

I  
LOVE  
YOU.

ME?  
NO  
WAY.

NANA,  
YOU'RE  
REALLY  
CUTE.

I  
COULDN'T  
BELIEVE  
HER  
WORDS...

AND MY  
HEART  
TWISTED  
INSIDE MY  
CHEST.

BUT  
NOW...

I JUST  
WANT TO  
HOLD YOU.

I WANT YOU  
IN MY ARMS.  
I WANT TO  
GET CLOSER,  
TO KNOW  
YOU MORE...

AND GIVE  
EVERYTHING  
TO YOU.







EVEN IF  
I DOUBT  
MYSELF...

NANA?  
WHAT  
IS IT?

OH,  
NOTHING...

THE PILLOW  
IS SMALL,  
SO MOVE IN  
CLOSER...

I WILL  
KISS YOU  
FIRST THING  
IN THE  
MORNING...

AND  
TELL  
YOU...

OUR  
LOVE  
IS FOR  
REAL.

CHAPTER 5 END





くちびるためいきさくらいろ

kuchibiru tameteki sakura iro

GIVE  
CHOCOLATES  
TO OTHER  
GIRLS?

UM... ON  
VALENTINE'S  
DAY...

DOES  
EVERY-  
ONE...

THE  
BEGINNING  
OF FEBRU-  
ARY...

AND THE  
START OF  
A NEW  
SCHOOL  
TERM.

We're an all-girls  
school, remember?

I  
know!

OH, YEAH!  
YOU WENT  
TO A CO-  
ED JUNIOR  
HIGH, RIGHT,  
NANA-CHIN?

LUCKY!  
YOU GOT  
TO GIVE  
CHOCOLATES  
TO GUYS!

OF  
COURSE!  
DO YOU SEE  
ANY BOYS  
AROUND  
HERE?

?

My favorite flower is  
Shepherd's-purse...

ABE-  
CHAN, ARE  
YOU GONNA  
GIVE ONE TO  
TACHIBANA-  
SEMPAI?

See chapter  
3 for more  
details!

BUT THIS  
YEAR, I'M  
ONLY GIVING  
SOME TO  
TACHIBANA-  
SEMPAI. SHE'LL  
BE JEALOUS  
OTHERWISE...

WHEN I WAS  
IN JUNIOR  
HIGH, I GAVE  
CHOCOLATES  
TO ALL OF MY  
CLASSMATES.

EWV!  
STOP  
BEING SO  
MUSHY!

She's so  
sensitive!

Careful or  
her fan  
club will  
kill you!

IT'S BEEN  
ALMOST  
A YEAR  
SINCE I  
CAME TO  
SAKURAKAI  
GIRLS  
HIGH...

Ehehe!

YOU GIVE  
IT TO THE  
SEMPAI  
YOU'RE  
CLOSEST  
TO...

BASICALLY,  
YOUR  
FAVORITE  
SEMPAI!

HERE  
WE GIVE  
CHOCOLATES  
TO OUR  
SEMPAIS!

THAT'S  
TRUE!

YOU COULD  
STILL GIVE  
CHOCOLATES  
TO A GUY.  
HE'D JUST  
HAVE TO GO  
TO ANOTHER  
SCHOOL.

It's hard to  
meet guys,  
but not  
impossible.

It's  
just a  
little more  
work for  
us...

OH, BUT  
WE DON'T  
GIVE IT TO  
ALL OF  
THEM!

Chocolate  
Recipes



YOU SAID YOU WERE DATING SOME-ONE...

WHAT?!

NANA-CHIN, WILL YOU GIVE ONE TO YOUR BOY-FRIEND?

I COULD ...

LIKE, FOR EXAM-  
PLE...

THAT I CAN GIVE CHOCO-  
LATES TO GIRLS.

UM...

I GUESS I WILL...

TO MY SPECIAL LOVE...

NANA!  
OVER  
HERE!

AH,  
HITOMI!

SORRY  
FOR  
BEING  
LATE...

CHAPTER 6 CHOCOLATE KISS KISS

TO  
HITOMI,  
MY  
GIRLFRIEND...

EH?  
WHAT  
IS IT?

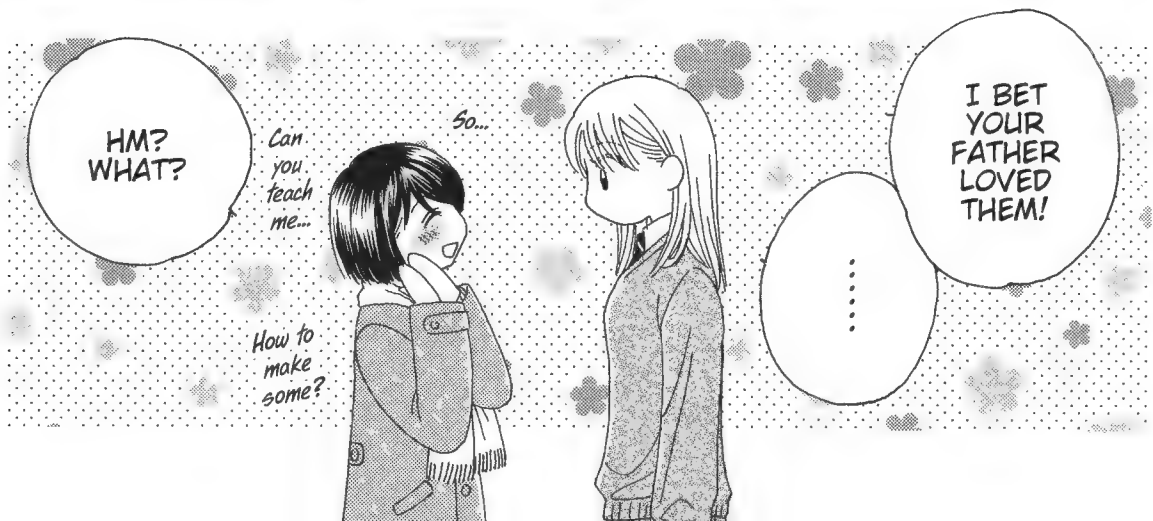
RUSTLE

RUSTLE

HITO--





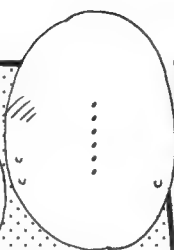






OH...

"WAIT..."



GASP

HUH?

SO YOU  
MADE  
THEM FOR  
SOMEONE  
ELSE...?!



HUH?  
GET  
WHAT?

NANA,  
YOU DON'T  
GET IT, DO  
YOU?

WHY  
WOULD  
I MAKE  
HOMEMADE  
CHOCOLATES  
FOR MY  
DAD?

FLOP

"NANA,  
CAN YOU  
TASTE  
THESE?  
I'M MAKING  
SOME FOR  
MY DAD."

"HERE, NANA!  
I MADE SOME  
CHOCOLATES  
FOR MY DAD,  
BUT YOU CAN  
HAVE THE  
EXTRAS!"

AH!

I  
SEE...



SHE  
MADE  
THEM...

FOR  
ME.



YOU'D  
ACCEPT  
THEM.

I  
FIGURED  
IF I TOLD  
YOU THEY  
WERE JUST  
LEFT-  
OVERS...



HAS  
HITOMI...

BEEN  
IN LOVE  
WITH ME  
THAT  
LONG?

OF  
COURSE...  
BACK THEN  
I NEVER  
PLANNED  
ON TELLING  
YOU HOW I  
REALLY  
FELT.

HITOMI...

THE FIRST  
TIME I  
RECEIVED  
HITOMI'S  
CHOCO-  
LATE WAS  
IN EIGHTH  
GRADE...

I'M  
GOING TO  
MAKE YOU  
THE BEST  
BATCH OF  
CHOCOLATES  
YET!  
♡

I WASN'T  
SURE WHAT  
I WAS GOING  
TO DO THIS  
YEAR...

OH  
YEAH...

HUG

BUT  
NOW I  
KNOW!

HUH?





TEXT ME  
LATER,  
OKAY?

BE  
CAREFUL  
ON YOUR  
WAY  
HOME!

OKAY.



THANKS!

HAVE  
FUN AT  
PRACTICE.  
I'LL CHEER  
FOR YOU AT  
THE NEXT  
GAME!

NO  
PROB-  
LEM!



LAST  
YEAR...

WE  
WERE  
JUST  
FRIENDS.

WE HAVE  
AN EARLY  
BASKETBALL  
PRACTICE TO-  
MORROW...

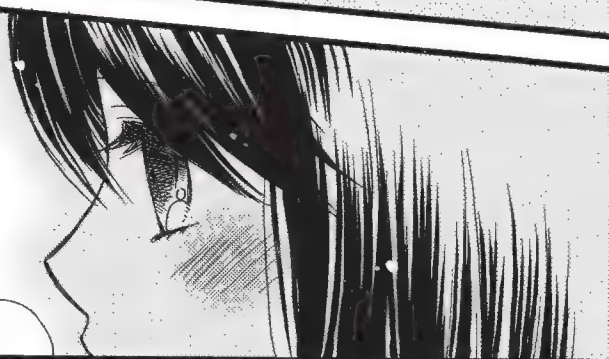
SO I  
SHOULD  
GET HOME  
AND TURN  
IN EARLY  
TONIGHT.



IN  
PUBLIC,  
WE ACT  
LIKE...



WE'RE  
JUST  
REALLY  
CLOSE  
FRIENDS.



NANA-  
CHIN...

Homemade

Valentine's  
Day Special

Cake-a-Palooza  
Capture his heart!!

IT'S  
ONLY  
BEEN...

A YEAR  
SINCE  
JUNIOR  
HIGH.





IT'S GETTING STRINGY...

DO WE ADD THE BUTTER NOW, OR LATER?



In ♡ Abe's house.

EASY! WE'LL JUST MULTIPLY ALL THE INGREDIENTS BY TEN!

BUT WE'RE OUT OF FLOUR...

THEN WE'LL USE CORNMEAL INSTEAD!

OKAY...

Who is neechan making chocolate for?

I hope not! It sounds awful!

Little brothers.

WHAT?

IT SHOULD'VE BEEN 20 GRAMS, NOT 200 GRAMS...

WE MESSED UP THE MEASUREMENTS!

EH?

HM? WE JUST ADDED THE SUGAR, SO...

LIHH... I DON'T KNOW.

FLIP FLIP



Sorry! No time to try it!

See you!

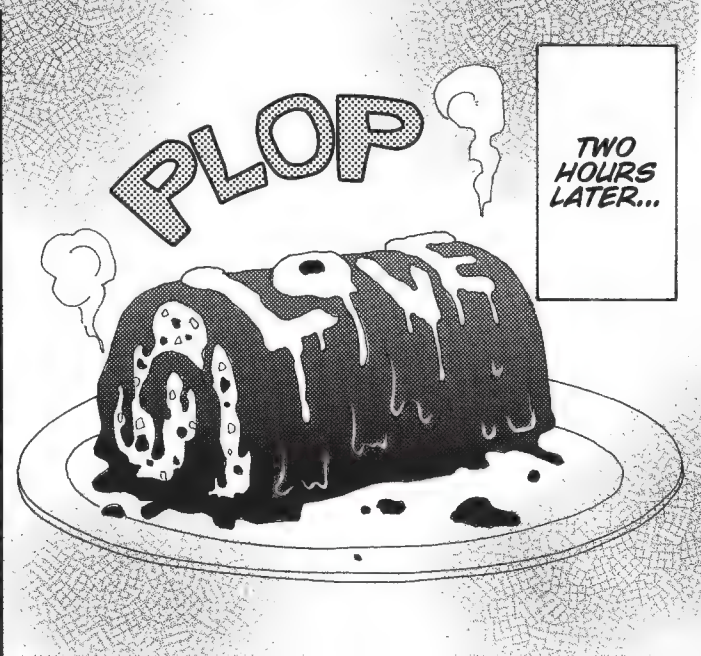
OH... IT LOOKS DELICIOUS!

WELL, I'M HEADING OUT NOW...

Clean up afterwards, okay?

Ho ho ho!

Mom! Don't leave us with that thing!



PLOP?

TWO HOURS LATER...





Waaah!

VALENTINE'S DAY IS TOMORROW, AND WE HAVE NOTHING!

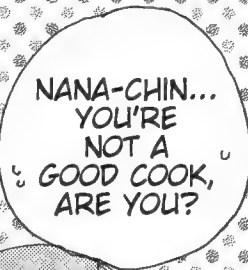
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!



YOU'RE ONE TO TALK, ABE-CHAN.

But my group is still faster than yours.

Your group is always behind in the cooking class.



NANA-CHIN... YOU'RE NOT A GOOD COOK, ARE YOU?



BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLOCK TOGETHER ...



THERE'S NO USE CRYING OVER IT. WE'LL JUST BUY SOME AT THE STORE.

I NEVER REALIZED HOW MUCH TIME AND EFFORT IT TOOK TO MAKE SOMETHING FROM SCRATCH...



TACHIBANA-SAN WILL PROBABLY GET LOADS OF CHOCOLATES...

I JUST WANTED TO MAKE ONE THAT COULD STAND OUT.

I should've picked an easier recipe.

SNIFF



HITOMI IS SO KIND...

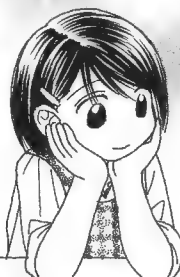
THAT I SOMETIMES FORGET...



WHAT MATTERS THAT IT'S GIVEN WITH LOVE.



IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE HOME-MADE...





LAST  
YEAR,  
AROUND  
THIS  
TIME...

BUT IF  
HITOMI'S  
MAKING  
HOMEMADE  
CHOCOLATES,  
IT FEELS CHEAP  
TO GET HER A  
STORE BOUGHT  
GIFT...

I  
GUESS I  
BETTER  
BUY  
SOME...

GUESS  
WE'RE NOT  
THE ONLY  
ONES...

Huh...

CLAMOR

CLAMOR

Should I  
jump into  
the fray?

CHOCOLATE FAIR  
NY 5th Ave

CHOCOLATE FAIR  
6th Ave

stampede!

Can't  
see!

HOW  
MUCH...

I  
HURT  
HER  
BEFORE.



HOW DID  
HITOMI  
FEEL...

WHEN  
SHE MADE  
CHOCO-  
LATES  
FOR ME  
ANYWAY?

EVEN  
THOUGH  
I KNEW  
HER FEEL-  
INGS...

I ACTED  
LIKE I  
DIDN'T  
NOTICE.



TO GET  
HER THE  
MOST  
DELICIOUS  
CHOCO-  
LATE!



OKAY!

I'LL DO  
WHATEVER  
I CAN...





THERE WERE A FEW GIRLS WHO GAVE IT TO THEIR TEACHERS, THOUGH.

WE'RE AN ALL-GIRLS SCHOOL TOO, BUT WE DON'T DO THAT!

SOME OF OUR GIRLS DID THAT, TOO.

SAKURAKAI SOUNDS LIKE A FUN PLACE...



SO...

AT YOUR SCHOOL PEOPLE GIVE CHOCOLATES TO THEIR SEMPAI?



ABE-CHAN'S SEMPAI CAME TO OUR CLASSROOM THIS MORNING AND...

Hee hee!

ABE-CHAN WAS SO EXCITED!



I GET KINDA JEALOUS.

ENOUGH ABOUT ABE-CHAN.

WHEN I HEAR ABOUT THE GIRLS WHO GET TO SEE YOU EVERY DAY...

THE WHOLE CLASSROOM WENT CRAZY--



HITOMI...

IF I WENT TO SAKURAKAI WITH YOU... IT'D BE JUST LIKE JUNIOR HIGH AGAIN.

WE'D BE BEST FRIENDS...



I SKIPPED PRACTICE TODAY SO I COULD GIVE THIS TO YOU!

WON'T YOU GET IN TROUBLE WITH THE COACH?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

Ha ha!



Ta-dah!



LOVE

ANYWAY, PRESENT TIME!



JEEZ, I SOUND SO PETTY, DON'T I?

OH! SORRY ABOUT THAT!

JUMP



OH, I'LL CUT IT FOR YOU!

HAND ME THE KNIFE!

...



WELL, THANKS! I CAN'T WAIT TO EAT YOUR HOME-MADE...





SAY  
AHHH....!



PUSH



IT'S  
DELICIOUS!

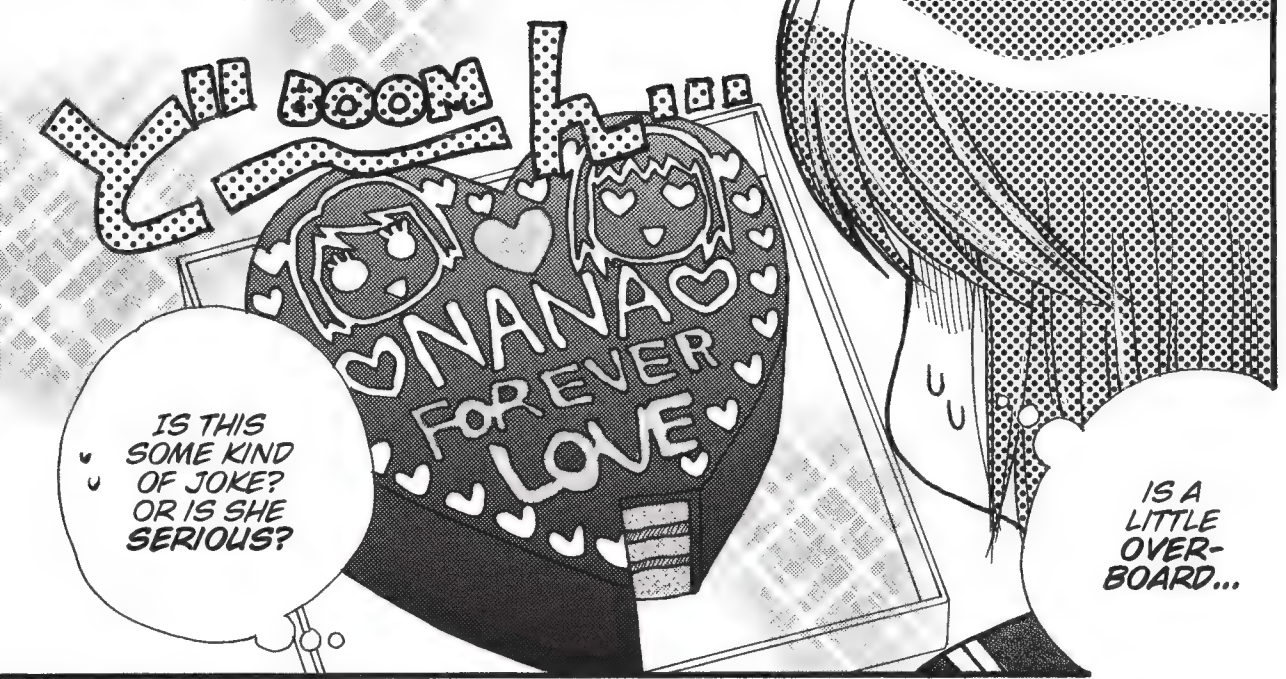
BUT...  
THIS...

IS IT  
GOOD?

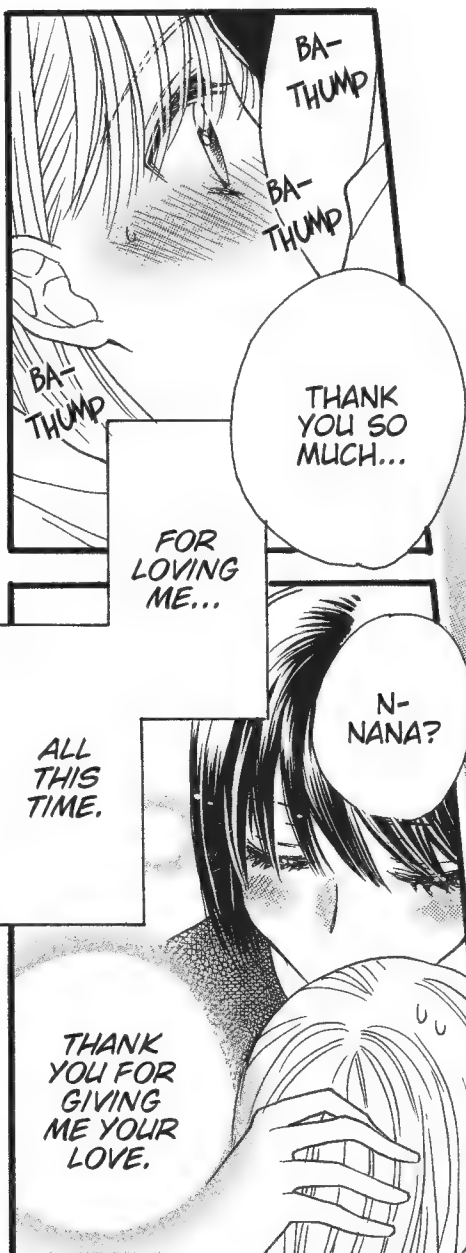
HOW  
DOES IT  
TASTE?

THE  
SWEET  
TASTE OF  
HITOMI'S  
LOVE...

MELTED  
IN MY  
MOUTH...















DON'T  
SCARE  
ME LIKE  
THAT!

I'M SO  
HAPPY...

I  
COULD  
DIE!

HEY,  
NANA...

HM?

FLOR  
FLOR



DON'T BEAT  
YOURSELF UP  
OVER WHAT  
HAPPENED IN  
THE PAST.

!



KISS

In the  
bank?

THAT'S  
WHY WE'RE  
SO HAPPY  
NOW!

AND...

HAD YOU  
FELT THE  
SAME WAY  
ABOUT ME  
BACK THEN...  
WE WOULD  
HAVE GONE TO  
SAKURAKAI  
TOGETHER.



I LIKE TO  
THINK THAT,  
IN THE YEARS  
WE WERE  
APART, WE  
WERE SAVING  
UP OUR  
HAPPINESS.

BACK  
THEN  
WE BOTH  
STRUGGLED  
AND WENT  
THROUGH  
SOME  
PAINFUL  
TIMES...

BUT  
MEAN-  
WHILE,  
OUR JOY  
WAS  
GROWING  
IN THE  
BANK!



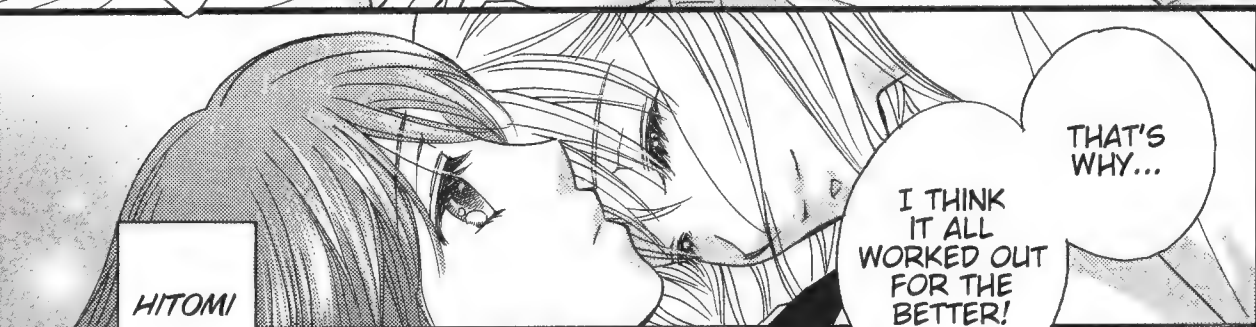
OUR  
FRIENDS...  
TEACHERS...

EVEN OUR  
FAMILY...

BUT I  
WOULDN'T  
HAVE BEEN  
ABLE TO HIDE  
MY FEELINGS  
FOR YOU  
FROM THE  
WORLD...

AND  
EVERYONE  
WOULD HAVE  
FOUND OUT  
ABOUT US.

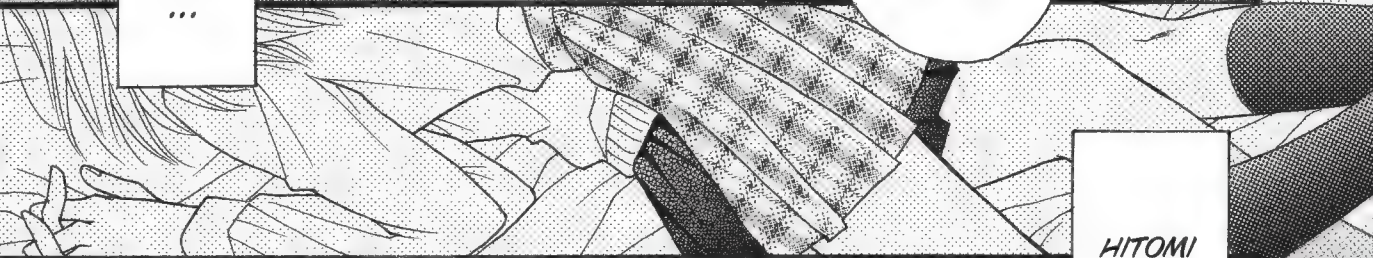
.....!



HITOMI  
...

I THINK  
IT ALL  
WORKED OUT  
FOR THE  
BETTER!

THAT'S  
WHY...



HITOMI  
IS TOO  
NICE...



EVEN  
WHEN  
SHE'S IN  
PAIN OR  
SUFFER-  
ING...



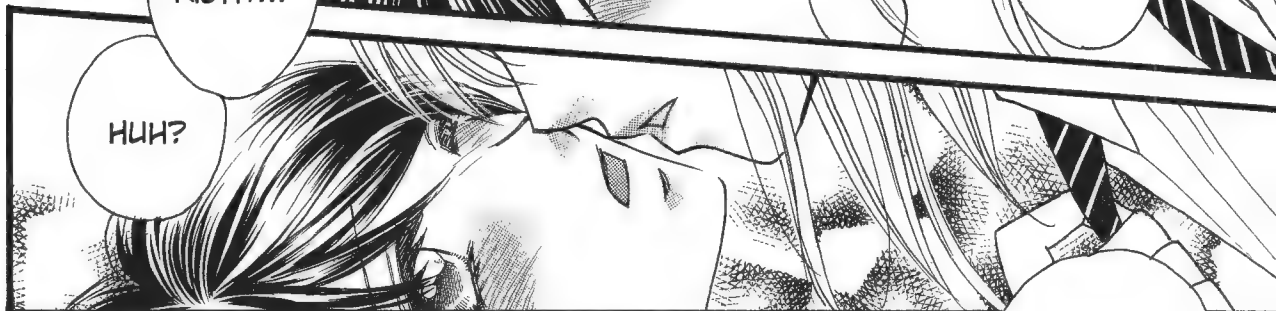
SHE HIDES  
HER TRUE  
FEELINGS  
FROM ME.





YOU'RE  
RIGHT...

...



HUH?



MY  
CHOCOLATE  
CAKE WAS  
DELICIOUS...

I CAN  
TASTE IT  
ON YOUR  
LIPS!



I'm gonna  
save the  
chocolate  
you gave  
me, Nana.

What?  
No, please  
eat it!

What  
if it  
melts?

What?

Ehehe!

THIS  
VALENTINE'S  
DAY...

IS THE  
BEST  
ONE  
YET!

HITOMI'S  
CHOCOLATE  
WILL NEVER  
BE BITTER  
AGAIN...

I'LL MAKE  
SURE IT  
STAYS  
SWEET...  
FOREVER.

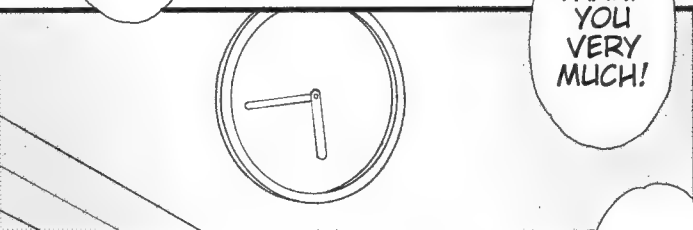
Please  
eat it. I  
fought  
hard to  
get it  
for you...

True, I  
don't want  
to waste  
it...

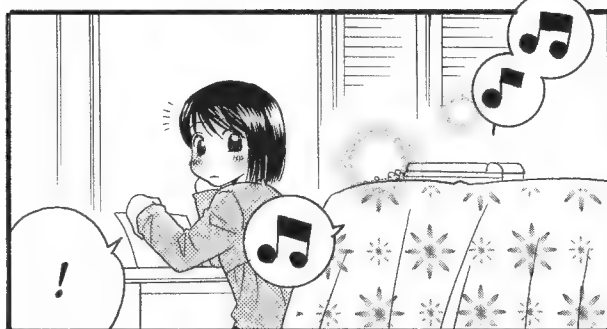
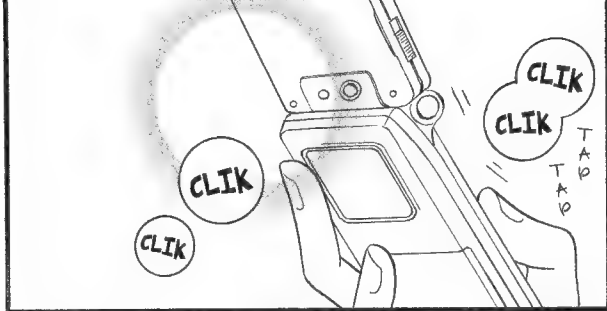
But I wanna  
save it as  
a souvenir  
of our first  
Valentine's Day!

CHAPTER 6 END

ZWOOSH











WHEN WE  
BECAME  
SECOND  
YEAR  
STUDENTS  
...

SOMETIMES  
WE DATED  
IN THE  
EVENING.

CHAPTER 7 WISH UPON A MOON

# LAWSON











SO THE BASKET-BALL TEAM HAS A BUNCH OF NEW MEMBERS?

HOW'S IT GOING?

WELL...



Must be nice to have teammates...

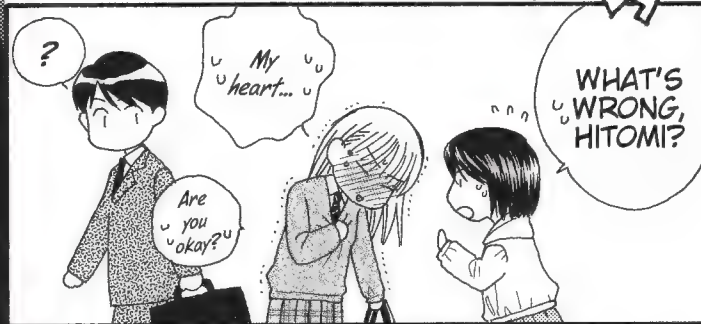
NIBBLE

I'M NOT IN ANY CLUBS...

MAYBE I SHOULD JOIN ONE.



WH-WHA... U



?

My heart... U

Are you okay? U

WHAT'S WRONG, HITOMI?



Sounds tough...

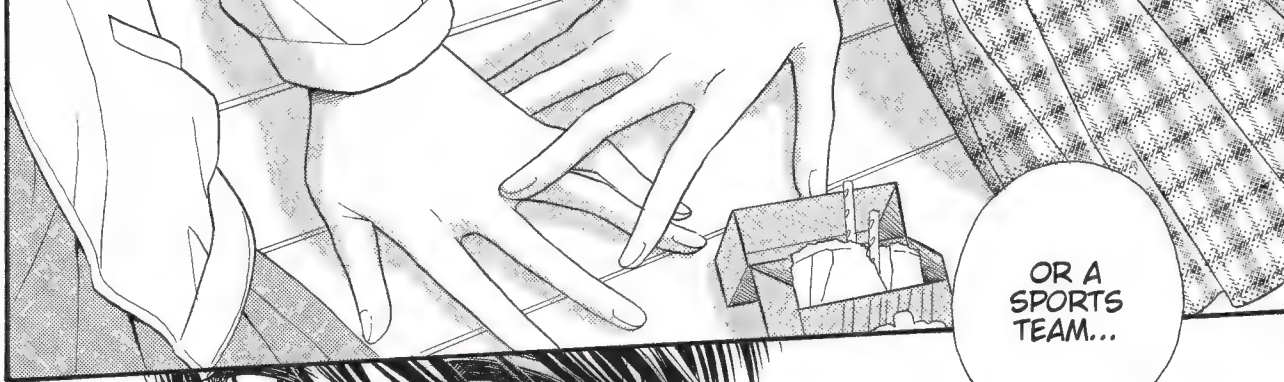
I THINK IT MIGHT BE TOO MUCH FOR SOME OF THE NEW GIRLS.

BUT WE PRACTICE ALL THE TIME, EVEN ON THE WEEK-ENDS.

THE GAMES AREN'T SO BAD...

I SEE...

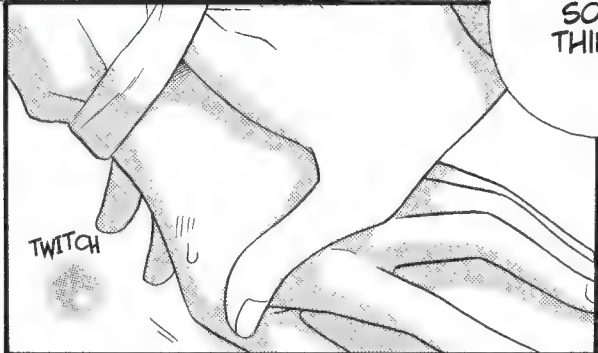




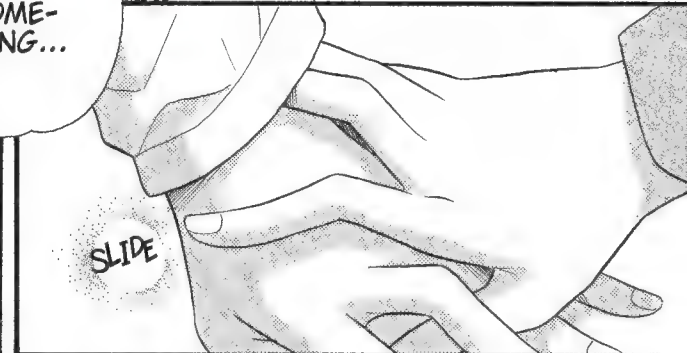
OR A  
SPORTS  
TEAM...



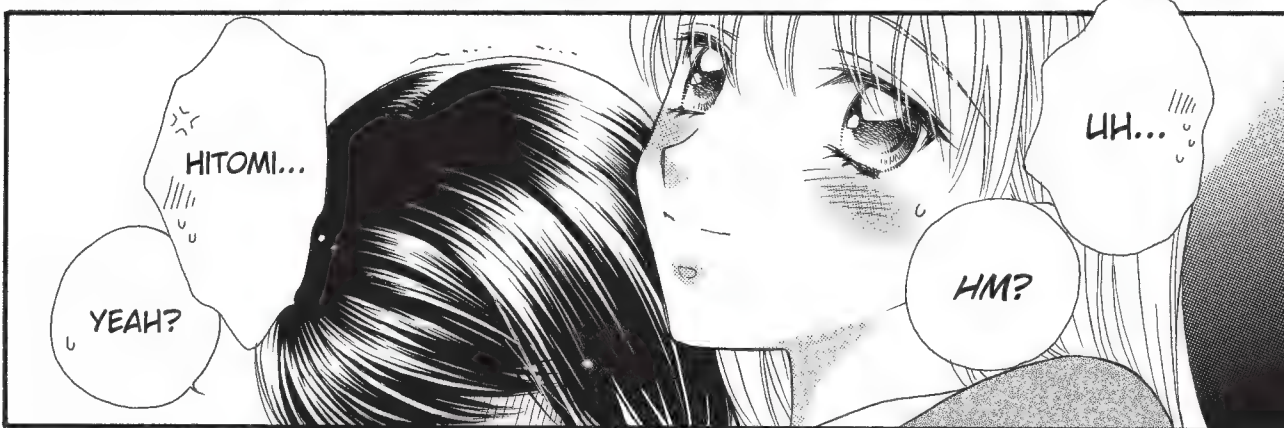
OR  
SOME-  
THING...



TWITCH



SLIDE



HITOMI...

UH...

YEAH?

HM?



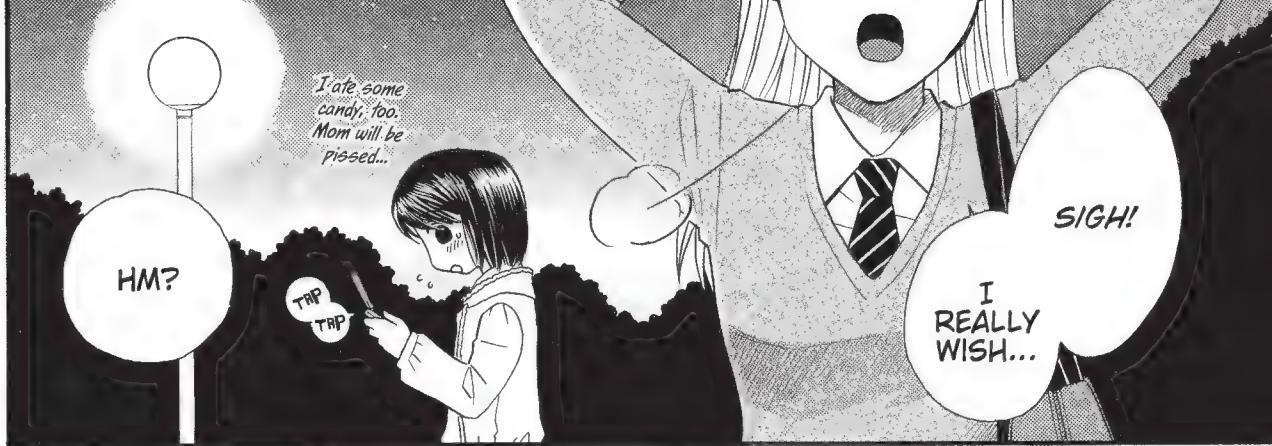
AND I'M  
TRYING,  
BUT...



YOU SAID  
WE CAN'T  
KISS IN  
PUBLIC,  
NANA.











EVERY  
MORNING  
WHEN I  
WAKE  
UP...

YOU'LL  
BE THE  
FIRST  
THING  
I SEE!



YUP!  
THE  
NANA  
CLUB!

EH?

ME?!

WHY?  
IS THERE  
SOME OTHER  
CLUB YOU'RE  
INTERESTED  
IN?

MAYBE I  
SHOULD  
QUIT  
BASKET-  
BALL AND  
JOIN A  
DIFFERENT  
CLUB...



WHAT  
IS SHE  
THINK-  
ING...?

JEEZ,  
NANA! I  
CAN'T TALK  
ABOUT IT  
HERE!

I can't say it!

It's too  
embarr-  
assing!



WHAT  
KIND OF  
ACTIVITIES  
WOULD THIS  
CLUB DO?

Umm...



Jeez!

SHEESH!  
YOU GET TO  
SEE ME EVERY  
MORNING AT  
THE BUS  
STOP.

BUT  
WHEN I  
HAVE  
MORNING  
PRACTICE,  
I DON'T  
EVEN GET  
THAT!

Don't  
be such  
a baby.

POUT





I <sup>na</sup>  
guess  
we can  
try...

YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
COME CHEER  
FOR ME AT MY  
NEXT GAME,  
RIGHT?



I'M  
KIDDING! I  
WON'T QUIT  
BASKET-  
BALL.



I'LL  
LEND  
YOU MY  
EXTRA  
SET!

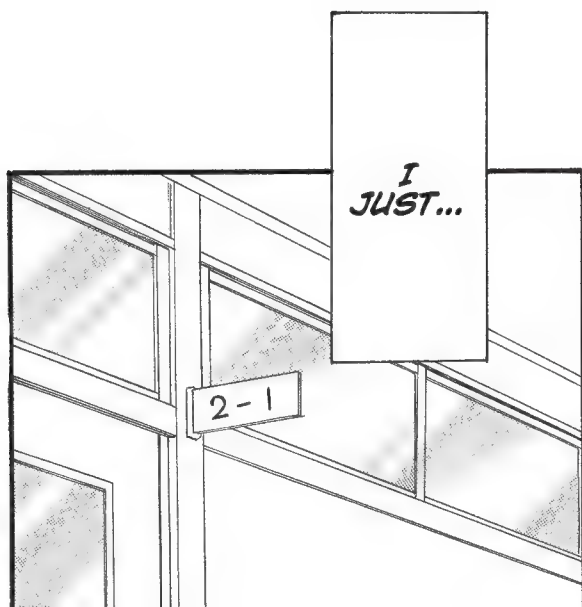
IF YOU  
WEAR OUR  
SCHOOL  
UNIFORM  
NO ONE  
WILL  
NOTICE.

OH YEAH!  
YOU SHOULD  
COME TO A  
PRACTICE  
SOMETIME!

BUT I  
THOUGHT  
STUDENTS  
FROM OTHER  
SCHOOLS  
WEREN'T  
ALLOWED...

WHAT?  
YOU'RE  
SERIOUS?

"YOU'LL  
BE THE  
FIRST  
THING  
I SEE!"



I  
JUST...

2-1



I-I'M FINE!

NANA-CHIN,  
YOUR FACE IS  
REALLY RED!  
ARE YOU  
OKAY?

Time for  
our next  
class...

Still  
thinking  
about it.

...CAN'T  
STOP  
THINKING  
ABOUT  
IT!



HITOMI'S  
PROBABLY  
BEEN  
THINKING  
ABOUT  
THAT...

FOR A  
LONG  
TIME.

WHEN WE  
GROW UP,  
WE CAN  
LIVE TO-  
GETHER...  
HUH...



MY  
HEART  
STILL  
WANTS  
MORE.

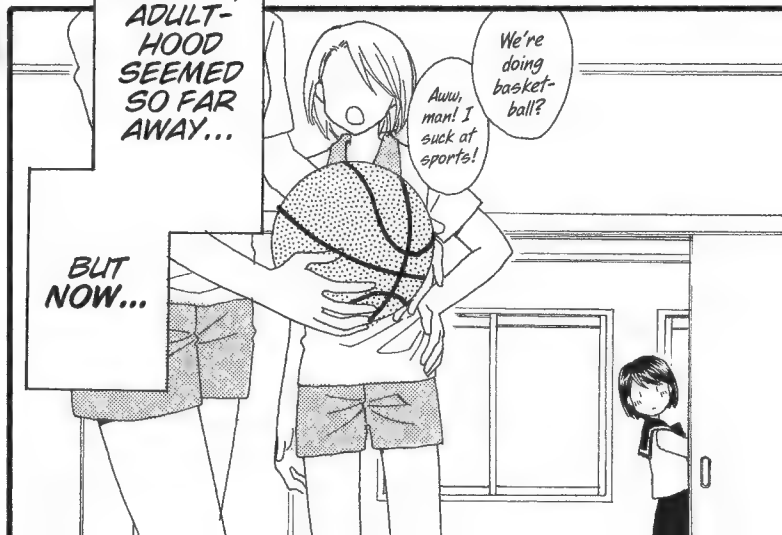
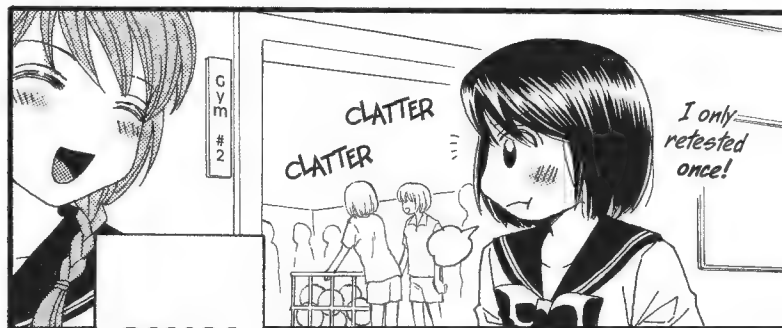
WE'RE  
LUCKY IF  
ONE OF US  
CAN SLEEP  
OVER ON THE  
WEEKENDS.

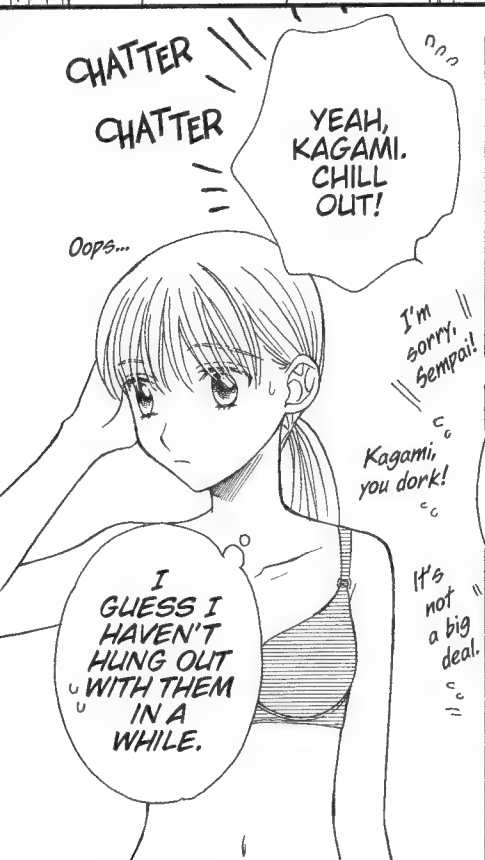
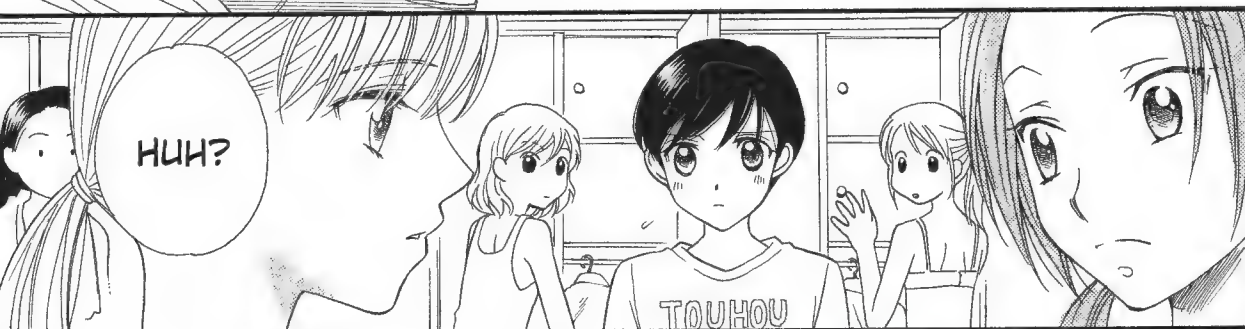
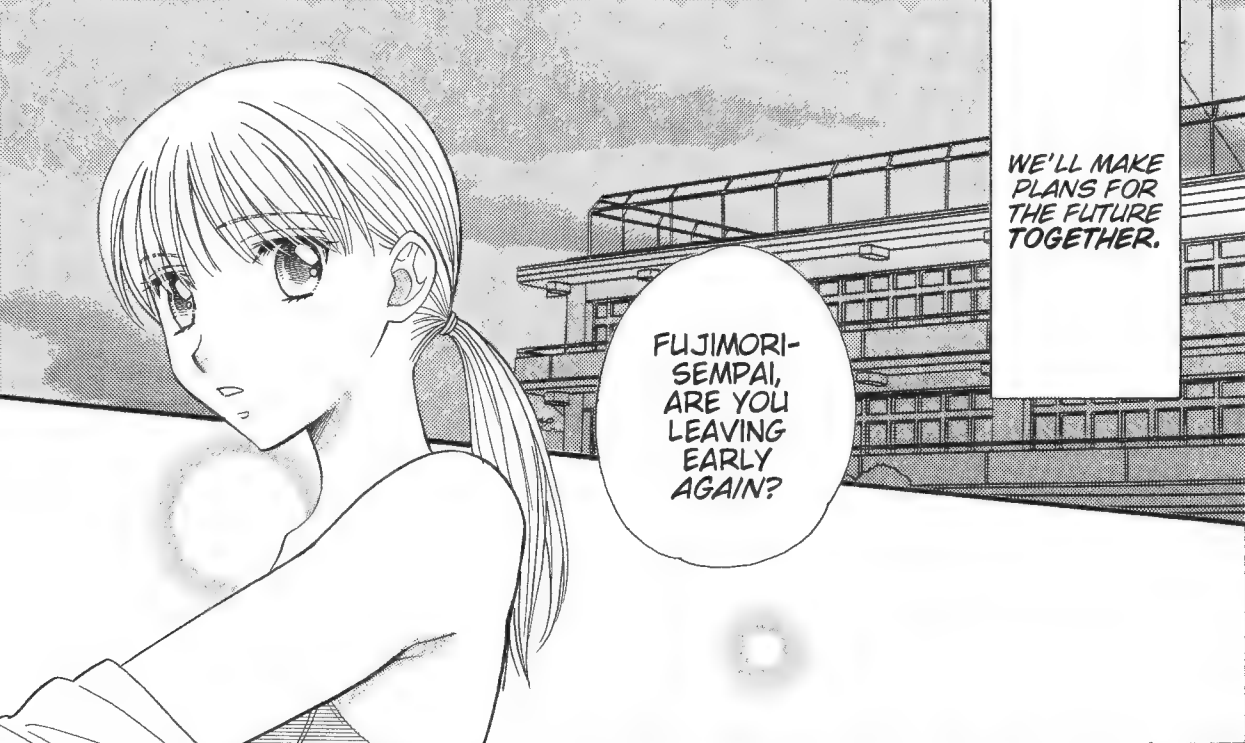
SEEING  
EACH  
OTHER  
AT THE  
BUS STOP,  
DROPPING  
BY IN THE  
EVEN-  
INGS...

IT'S  
NOT  
ENOUGH.

COME TO  
THINK OF  
IT, WE'VE  
NEVER  
SPENT A  
WHOLE DAY  
TOGETHER  
AS A  
COUPLE...









Oh, I  
get it!

KAGAMI,  
YOU LIKE  
FUJIMORI-  
SEMPAI,  
DON'T  
YOU?

IT'S  
TRUE!

SPLURT!

WELL,  
I'M FREE  
TODAY...

THAT'S  
WHY YOU  
WERE SO  
UPSET...

Ah ha ha!

HEY!

SH-  
SHUT  
UP!

SO...

I'VE  
BEEN  
WANT-  
ING...

TO  
HANG  
OUT...

That's  
all.

BLUSH

LAST YEAR,  
I SAW YOU  
PLAY IN A  
BASKETBALL  
GAME...  
YOU WERE  
AMAZING!

I WAS  
IMPRESSED  
THAT YOU MADE  
FIRST-STRING  
EVEN THOUGH  
YOU WERE JUST  
A FIRST YEAR  
STUDENT...

I JOIN-  
ED THE  
BASKETBALL  
TEAM PARTLY  
BECAUSE I  
KNEW YOU'D  
BE ON IT  
TOO...

UM...

UH,  
WELL, I  
AM A BIT  
OF A  
FAN...



BUT  
IF YOU  
PRACTICE,  
YOU CAN  
MAKE FIRST-  
STRING TOO,  
KAGAMI-  
SAN.

YOU'RE  
ALREADY  
BETTER  
THAN I WAS  
IN FIRST  
YEAR!

OH...

THANKS!

Heh!



STOP  
IT!!

DON'T BE  
STUPID!

THAT'S  
NASTY!

I'M NOT A  
PERVERT!



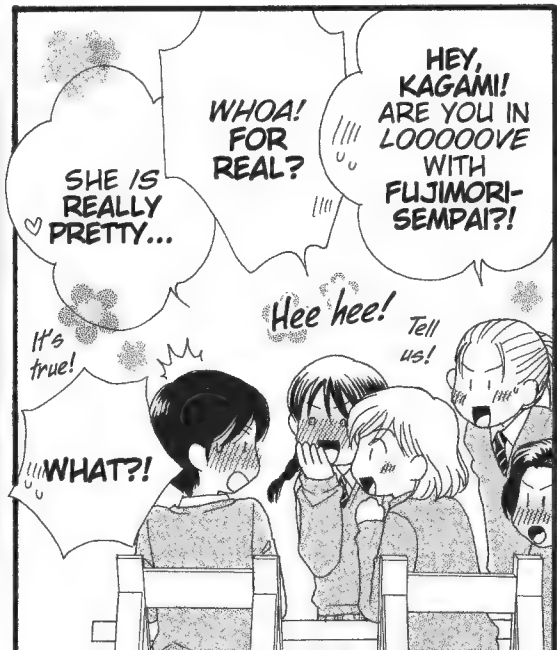
HAHA!  
KAGAMI'S  
EARS ARE  
RED!!

N-NO,  
I'M  
NOT!

NOT  
EVEN  
CLOSE!

Ahahaha!

B  
L  
U  
S  
H



WHOA!  
FOR  
REAL?

HEY,  
KAGAMI!  
ARE YOU IN  
LOOOOOVE  
WITH  
FUJIMORI-  
SEMPAI?!

SHE IS  
REALLY  
PRETTY...

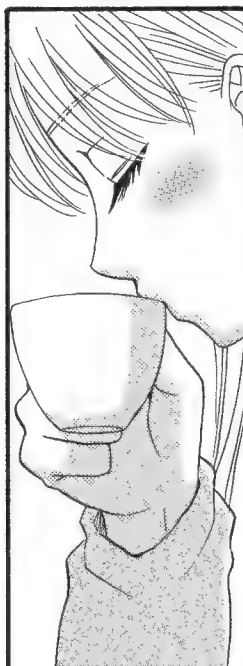
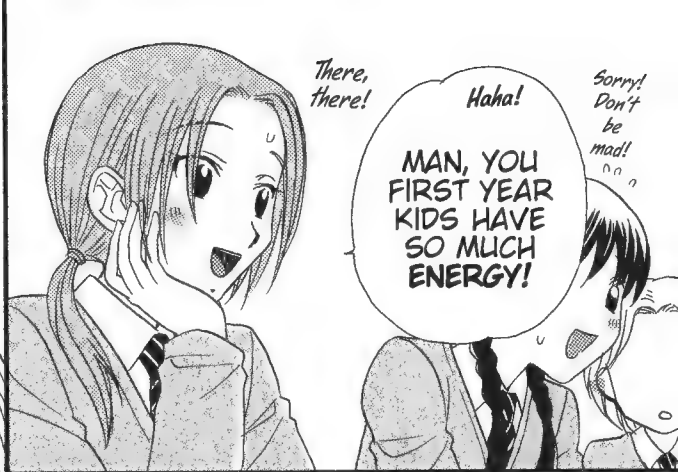
Hee hee!

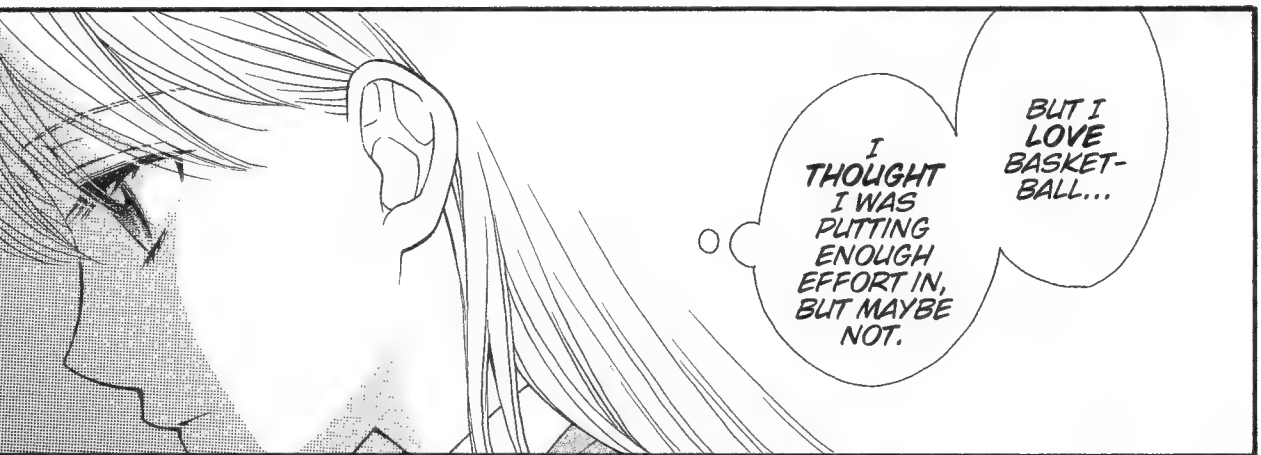
Tell  
us!

It's  
true!

WHAT?!











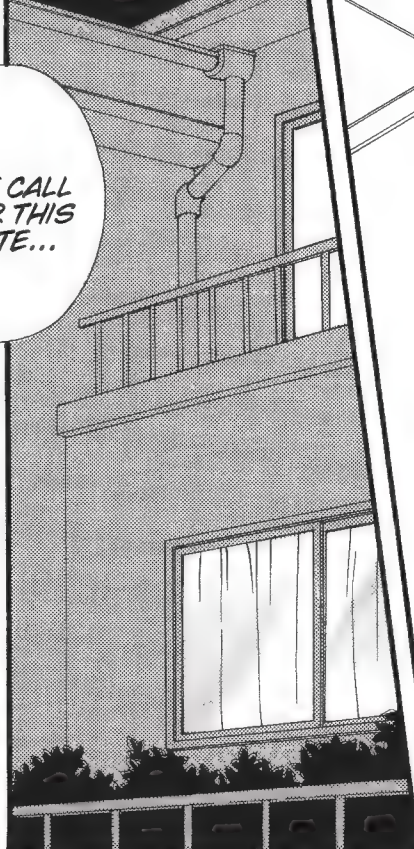
NANA WILL  
PROBABLY  
GET MAD  
AT ME.

IF I CALL  
HER THIS  
LATE...



I CAN  
SEE HER  
TOMORROW  
MORNING...

AND  
THERE'S NO  
PRACTICE  
TOMORROW,  
SO...

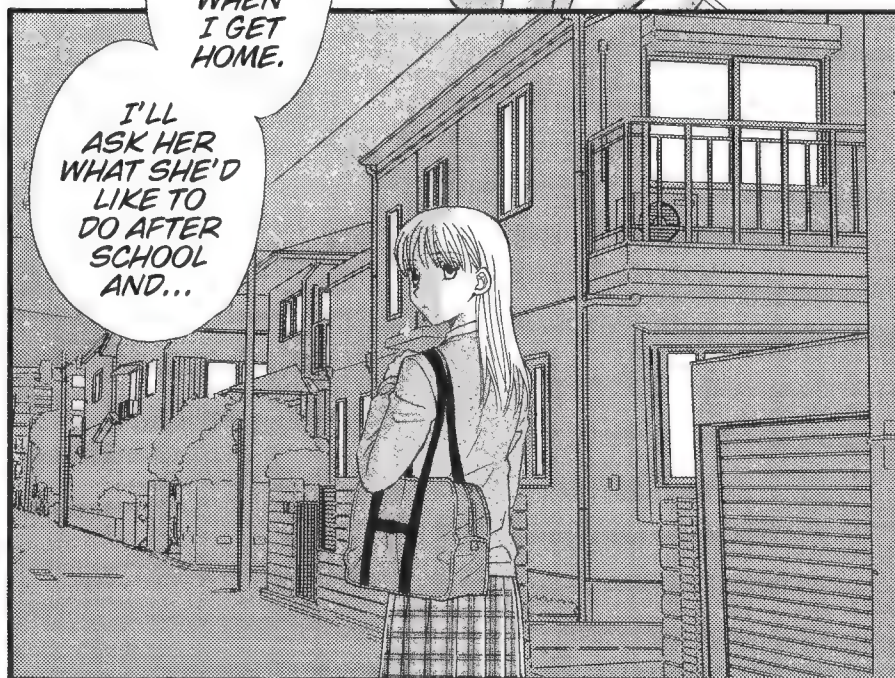


CLAP



AND...

AFTER  
THAT...



I'LL  
ASK HER  
WHAT SHE'D  
LIKE TO  
DO AFTER  
SCHOOL  
AND...

I'LL  
TEXT  
HER  
WHEN  
I GET  
HOME.









WE COULD WATCH IT TOGETHER TOMORROW!

I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT TO SEE IT, SO I BOOK-MARKED THE VIDEO!



NO, I WON'T SAY WHAT HAPPENED NEXT!

WAIT!

IT WENT UNDER THE TABLE AND...

HUH?



OH, A KITTY VIDEO?

I SAW A REALLY FUNNY CAT VIDEO EARLIER TODAY!

Hey.

Cat person.



TO SEE ME SO LATE.

THANK YOU FOR COMING...

BUT...

I WAS WORRIED.



YOU HAVEN'T TEXTED ME YET...  
SO I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU.

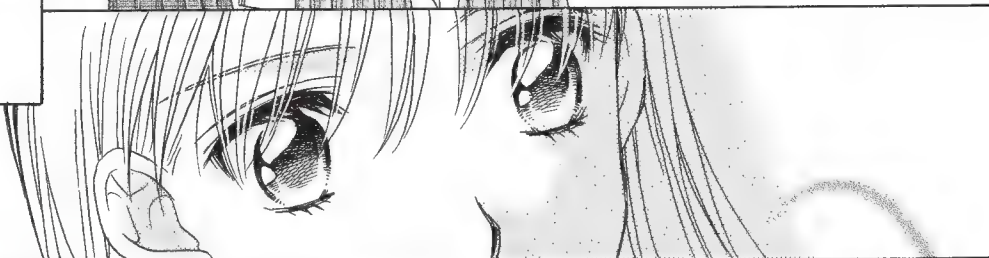
SQUEEZE

I SOMETIMES HAVE A DREAM...

WHERE  
I GO TO  
SCHOOL  
AND  
BASKET-  
BALL  
PRACTICE...

AND  
LIVE A  
NORMAL  
LIFE.

BUT  
THEN...



THAT IT'S  
A DREAM.

NANA WENT  
TO A DIFFERENT  
HIGH SCHOOL...

AND I  
REALIZE...

"WHERE'S  
NANA?"

"NANA'S  
ALWAYS  
BY MY SIDE.  
WHERE IS  
SHE?"





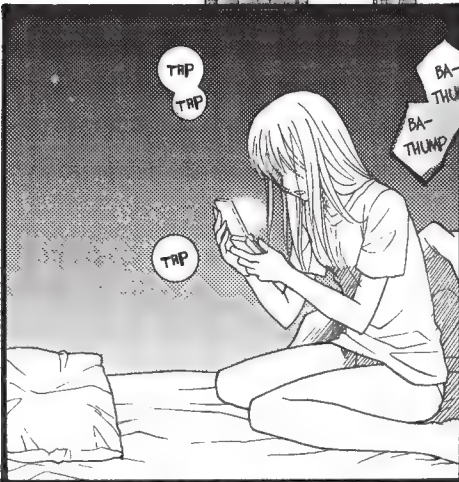
IF I HADN'T EXPRESSED MY FEELINGS  
TO HER, I COULD'VE STAYED BY HER SIDE.

WHY DIDN'T I JUST KEEP  
MY FEELINGS TO MYSELF?



I CAN'T  
SEE NANA  
ANYMORE.

NEVER... NOT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.



I  
THOUGHT  
I WAS  
GOING  
OUT WITH  
NANA?

THEN I  
WAKE  
UP...



WHICH  
IS REAL...  
AND  
WHICH  
IS A  
DREAM?

AND  
GET  
CON-  
FUSED  
FOR A  
MINUTE.





I CAN'T  
EVER  
SHARE  
THIS  
FEAR  
WITH  
NANA...

I CAN'T  
EVER  
LET HER  
KNOW.



WELL...

I  
THOUGHT  
IT WAS  
PRETTY  
FUNNY,  
ANY-  
WAY...



I SHOULD  
SAVE  
IT FOR  
TOMORROW...

BUT  
SOMETIMES  
YOU HAVE  
TO HOLD  
BACK...



HUH?  
WHAT  
ARE YOU  
TALKING  
ABOUT?



BUT THE  
KITTEN IS  
REALLY  
CUTE!

IF I  
PULL  
HER  
CLOSE...

I CAN  
HOLD HER  
IN MY  
ARMS...





Umm... !!!

YOU'LL  
SEE...  
TOMORROW.

SAVE  
WHAT?  
!!! HITOMI?

SEE  
!!! WHAT?

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S NASTY.  
IF IT'LL MAKE YOU SMILE...



I'M  
GOING TO  
SAVE TODAY'S  
HUGS AND  
KISSES...

AND GIVE  
THEM ALL  
TO YOU!

Just  
wait!

I JUST  
WANT THE  
COURAGE  
TO PROTECT  
YOU FROM  
NOW ON.







SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

# *Kisses, Sighs, and Cherry Blossom Pink*

story and art by **MILK MORINAGA**

**VOLUME 1**

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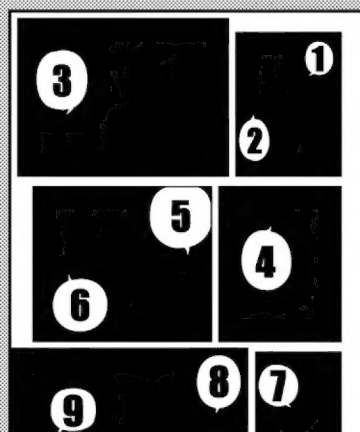
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## READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but it will get the hang of it before you know it.





**From Milk Morinaga, the  
author of the *New York Times*  
bestselling manga *Girl Friends*!**

When the cherry blossoms bloom it means the start of another school year—and for the girls at Sakurakai High, it signals the birth of new dreams, fears, and relationships. In this *yuri* romance collection, lifelong friends become lovers, the ghosts of old crushes are put to rest, and hearts break and are mended. Fourteen stories of love between girls are interspersed throughout this heartfelt and adorably illustrated manga omnibus edition.

A manga-style illustration of two young women. The woman on the left has long, light brown hair and is wearing a tan jacket over a blue shirt. She is looking down with a slight smile. The woman on the right has short, dark blue hair and is wearing a blue jacket with a thick, light-colored fur collar and a large floral brooch. She is looking up at the first woman with a similar expression. They are standing close together, and the background is a soft pink with faint floral patterns.

**OLDER TEEN (16+)**

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